

IN THIS ISSUE: WE VOTE OUT AMERICAN IDOL

MAD^{IND}®



#462 FEBRUARY 2006 \$3.99 CHEAP!

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...AND WE TEAR DOWN
TV'S **HOUSE**



MAD

FEBRUARY 2006

NUMBER 462

DEPARTMENTS

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPARTMENT:

Random Samplings of Reader Mail.....2

RANDOM ACTS OF MINDLESS DEPARTMENT:

The Fundalini Pages.....6

MAD COWELL'S DISEASE DEPARTMENT:

MAD's Do-It-Yourself *American Idol* Judges' Critiques.....10

EATS MEETS JEST DEPARTMENT:

The MAD World of Food.....12

JOKE AND DAGGER DEPARTMENT:

Spy Vs. Spy.....16

HIP-BREAK HOTEL DEPARTMENT:

The Heartbreaking Problems of Aging Elvis Impersonators.....18

HE SUITS, HE SCORES! DEPARTMENT:

Good Points and Bad Points of the New NBA Dress Code.....20

SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPARTMENT:

A MAD Look at Bling.....22

ANGSTER'S PARADISE DEPARTMENT:

Monroe and...The Dream Date.....29

GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME METH DEPARTMENT:

What If Patrick Henry Was a Speed Freak.....31

THE BEAST AND THE BRIGHTEST DEPARTMENT:

MAD's Inspirational Animal Stories.....34

PEN & STINK DEPARTMENT:

The Strip Club.....37

REJECTS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT:

American Idol Also-Rans — Where Are They Now?.....40

LICENSE TO SHILL DEPARTMENT:

Go Fetch!.....43

HUGH DIRTY RAT DEPARTMENT:

"Louise" (A MAD TV Satire).....49

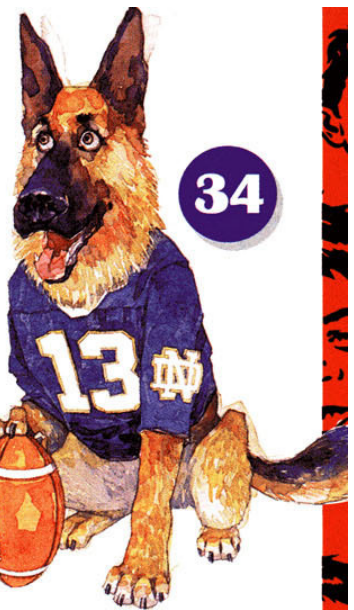
MARGINAL THINKING DEPARTMENT:

"Drawn Out Dramas"..... Various Places
by Sergio Aragones Around the Magazine

40

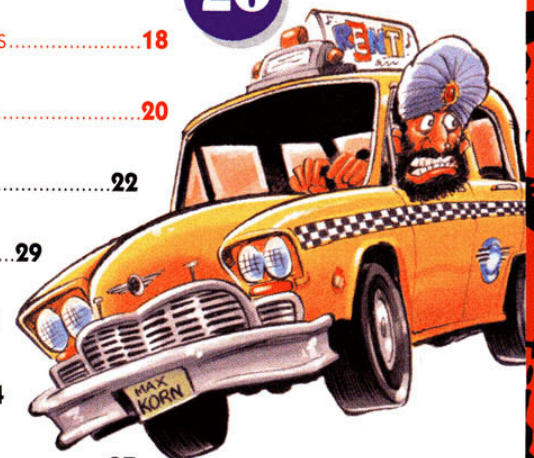


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FRONT COVER ARTIST:
MORT DRUCKER

20



18



It's funny how no one is ever so busy that they can't find the time to complain about how busy they are!





MAIL TO THE CHIEF

When I saw Ken McClelland's congratulatory card for Monroe's 100th episode, I actually remembered that I was President of Monroe's Fan Club! Therefore, to celebrate this absolutely underwhelming accomplishment, I've decide, as President, to officially begin activities. I have set up an e-mail account — MonroeFanClub@hotmail.com for anyone who wants to join. You can offer suggestions on more Fan Club activities, like the First Annual Convention, contests to declare what those two things on Monroe's head actually are, debating whether Monroe is funnier when you read across the crack of the magazine, or one page at a time. We will also organize our Monroe Look-a-Like Contest! Join Jake Bird and me online and we can create one of the biggest group of losers on the Internet!

Darryl Gonzalez, Severn, MD

Mr. President — Thanks for the heads up on the "exciting" bit of news. We're sure that just like us, all the Monroe readers will take note of your e-mail address and be sure to immediately click off "block all messages from this sender!" Stay out of the theatre, Mr. President! —Ed.

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

I've only been reading your magazine for a couple of months and I love it, so I've decided to write to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*. My friends at school and I have a crush on Emma Watson (Hermione from *Harry Potter*) so my dumb wish is that Viktor Krum would die so Hermione would be in search of a 10-year-old muggle who lives in East Lansing, MI and goes to Denley School. I'd love her to pick me to marry and we'd live in a mansion in Bel Air.

No Name Given, East Lansing, MI

No Name — In an eerie coincidence, Miss Emma Watson herself stopped in to the MAD offices on the very same day we received your letter! It seems she's single and looking for our help to find a life partner. She had just come from a closing on her new mansion in Bel Air and her life was nearly complete — all she needed was a Midwesterner to settle down with. We were so excited to make a love connection...until we realized you didn't even give us your name! We'll gladly handle dumb wishes, but we can't handle dumb readers! Maybe you can try your luck with Professor McGonagall! See ya at Hogwarts! —Ed.



MAD'S BIG QUESTION OF THE ISSUE

It's not too late to cast your vote for the Big Question (first posed in MAD #460)!

This month, we ask:

Which celebrity's iPod would like to see cranked up to a dangerously high volume?

Send in your pick to Amy "The Big Question" Vozeolas, c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.



FIGHT FOR YOUR WRITE

Hey all you guys at MAD. You helped me at a hard time. On Thursday, I got into a fight with this moronic idiot. I was just sticking up for my friend and I got after-school detention. I went home and read your magazine and it cheered me up.

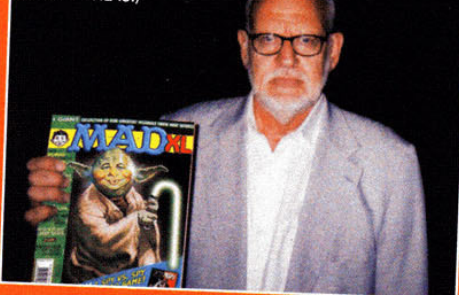
Colby Peterson, Prescott Valley, AZ

In Colb Blood — Wait a second, we're confused. Let's recap your day, shall we? You got into a fight because apparently you don't like "moronic idiots." Then when you went home, you were cheered up by reading MAD — the magazine made by and for moronic idiots! So technically, according to your logic, you should kick your own butt! Thanks for writing and don't go too easy on yourself! —Ed.

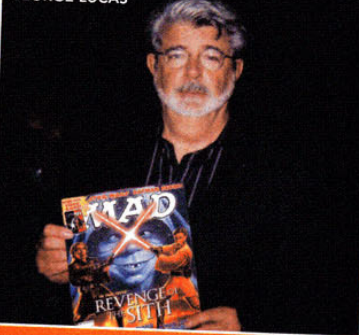
MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS SPECIAL STAR WARS EDITION

Not long ago at a fashion show not far away, some of the folks behind *Star Wars* were nice enough to pose with issues of MAD. They were all attending the event *Dressing A Galaxy: The Costumes of Star Wars*, held in New York City. Unfortunately, the photographs of Jabba the Hutt walking the runway in Daisy Duke shorts are unsuitable for reprinting in this magazine!

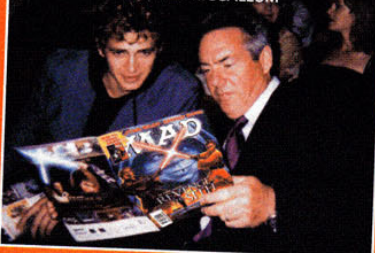
FRANK OZ (VOICE OF YODA HE IS!)



GEORGE LUCAS



HAYDEN CHRISTENSEN AND STAR WARS PRODUCER RICK MCCALLUM



NAME THAT TOON

Finally MAD has bothered to parody the most idiotic of channels — Adult Swim (MAD #458 "MAD's Fall TV Preview 2005"). As glad as I was to see *Family Guy* cavort in your issue along with *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*, or as Adult Swim calls it "ATHF." However, I was distressed to find that there was no *Inuyasha* spoof. Has MAD lost its edge? Are they unable to parody a show so riddled with plot holes that main villain Naraku's "power" is no matter how many times you blow the moron up, he keeps coming back? Hasn't this been covered in *DBZ* with Majin Buu? Please MAD, make an *Inuyasha* spoof! I look forward to the day when badly drawn *Inuyasha* figures appear in the well-worn copies of my MAD volumes!

Max Sher, Durham, NC

Sher and Sher Alike — What the hell are you talking about? What a moronic, idiotic letter. Colby P., you know what to do! —Ed.

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HALLOWEEN HALL-O-FAME

Nothing thrills us more than seeing the "creativity" of our readers on display for the entire trick-or-treating world to see. Something tells us there were more tricks than treats!

In the issue with the hottest Halloween costumes (MAD #459) I chose the highly overpriced gas pump and guess what? I won the best costume in my town's Halloween parade! Thank you for this great idea. You could buy Regular, Premium or Ultra. Regular was \$94.09, Premium was an arm and a leg and Ultra was your first born! Which one will you order?

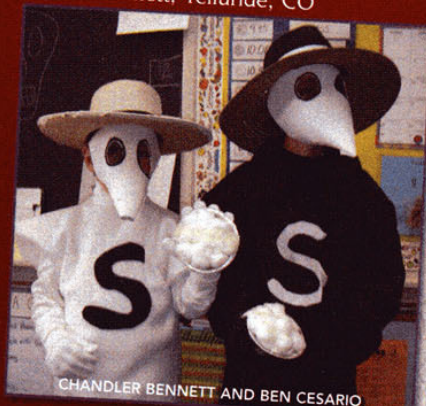


JACKSON "GAS PUMP" GANEM

Jackson Ganem, Allendale, NJ

These costumes were the brainchild of my son and his friend. Both are seven years old!

Scott Bennett, Telluride, CO



CHANDLER BENNETT AND BEN CESARIO

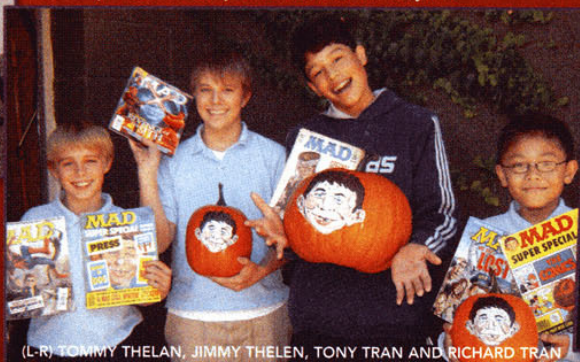
This year our readers found an unprecedented number of ways to destroy their pumpkins! Here's a look at the gourd, the bad and the ugly!

ADAM RUTKOWSKI, RACINE, WI



No, being from Iowa isn't the joke! My mom paints pumpkins (yeah, people pay her to paint vegetables) and our friends Tony and Richard struck a pose with us and our Alfred E. Neuman pumpkins. Please put us in your magazine, it will make us famous and easier to pick up chicks. Hey, what's cooler than guys posing with pumpkins their mommy painted? Uh, well, anyway, thanks!

Jimmy and Tommy Thelen, Sioux City, IA



(L-R) TOMMY THELAN, JIMMY THELAN, TONY TRAN AND RICHARD TRAN

My youngest son is one of your biggest fans. He recently won a Spy Vs. Spy video game for his Xbox from one of your contests. I wanted to share our Halloween pictures with you for obvious reasons!

Cynthia Corcoran, Lake Wylie, SC

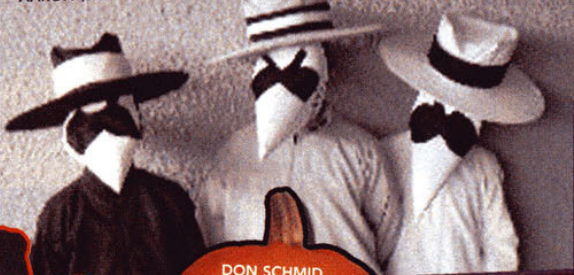


CAMERON CORCORAN IN HIS COSTUME

For Halloween, our boys wanted to be Spy Vs. Spy. Unfortunately, we have three boys. So we made one of them gray! We hope you enjoy the pictures.

Michelle R., Heather P. and Judy C., Santa Clara, CA

AARON (BLACK SPY), DOMINIC (GRAY SPY) AND CHRISTIAN (WHITE SPY)



DON SCHMID, MILWAUKEE, WI

BARRY FRIES, BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

BRENT CLEVELAND, KENNER, LA



JACOB LUNDGREN, BELLINGHAM, WA



DON SCHMID, MILWAUKEE, WI



BARRY FRIES, BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

BRENT CLEVELAND, KENNER, LA



ROBIN SOLIS, ADDRESS WITHHELD



JOSH GUSTAFSON, VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

GRANT JANIS, SHARON CENTER, OH

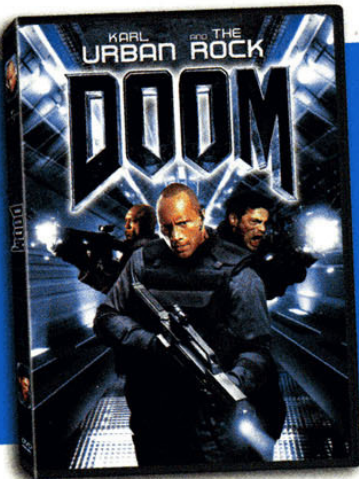


WIL MISIOREK, LYNNWOOD, WA



READER ALERT!

Everyone that had their letter published in this month's Letters Page will receive a copy of *Doom* on DVD, rated PG-13, courtesy of Universal Home Video. For those who couldn't be bothered to write us a letter, *Doom* will be on sale in stores February 7, 2006!



ANTIQUES FREAKSHOW WITH HANS BRICKFACE

One day while pretending I cared about being in snobby Waverly Home, the snooty "decorating" store, I came across this thing. It was 90% off so I knew I had to have it. No one in the store knew what it was, but the place did go out of business shortly after I purchased it. Any suggestions?



Carole Traster-Wilk, Little Neck, NY

Wilk on the Wild Side — We too are at a loss, but we're sure that resident antiques guru, Hans Brickface, can fill in all the blanks for you!

People write to me because, as an antiques expert, I have a wealth of knowledge and experience in this particular field, and my help is needed to guide novice collectors. However, you don't have to be an expert to determine that if you bought something at a chain store a few years ago for 90% off, it's probably not a priceless antique. That said, it appears as though you have been the victim of a churlish prank carried out by the staff of Waverly Home! From the looks of it, those rascals have sold you a sphere of their half-eaten, petrified marshmallows! So, there is no market value, but the joke they played at your expense is absolutely priceless! And please don't bother to write in when you buy a moldy Hot Pocket from the stock boy at Pier 1 Imports!

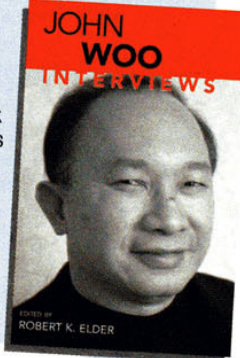
**NEXT MONTH IN MAD #463 ON
SALE FEBRUARY 21!**

**EVERYBODY HATES CHRIS
AND A DO-IT-YOURSELF
GEORGE W. BUSH
PRESS CONFERENCE!**

MAD BLURBS

Actual quotes that
prove the world is going MAD!
This Month: **Director John Woo**

In the new book *John Woo Interviews* edited by Robert K. Elder, John Woo talks about the bizarre link between MAD and his work. After reading this quote from the book, we can't believe that taking inspiration from our pages didn't kill his career immediately!



Q: ...How did you come up with the style to use Mexican stand-offs? — Almost like "Infinite Ammo" flips and slides or when people fly across the room shooting at people in your films?

JW: I think the ideas came on the set because I never knew it's called a Mexican standoff. I just wanted to make a fun moment. [In] *The Killer* I tried to find a way to emphasize the friend and enemy [dichotomy] and I tried to create a fun moment. Maybe I have [read] too many comics and at that time my favorite comic was MAD magazine's *Spy vs. Spy* — the black and white bird that catch each other and actually they are pretty good friends. That gave me the idea to create the scene.



**NEXT MONTH IN MAD KIDS #2
ON SALE FEBRUARY 21!**

**AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW
WITH CARRIE UNDERWOOD,
SPY VS. SPY JR. AND ANOTHER
FAKE-OUT BACK COVER!**

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Contributing Artists

And Writers

the usual gang of idiots

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THE FUNDALINI

MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO CHARITY WORK



Jenkins donates one day of his weekend helping the local Meals on Wheels program deliver food to the elderly.



Melvin donates his time, too, but after weeks of complaint calls, they discover him holed up in his apartment surrounded by 6,000 single servings of lime Jell-O.

12 WAYS TO KNOW YOU'RE FLYING ON A BANKRUPT AIRLINE

- ✶ Your New York to Los Angeles flight terminates in Duluth and they bus you the rest of the way.
- ✶ They conveniently "forget" to return the loose change you place in the tray before going through the X-ray machine.
- ✶ To increase the number of paying customers per flight they introduce a new seating class - Overhead Bin.
- ✶ During check-in, each passenger is given their boarding pass and a condom filled with a white powder to swallow.
- ✶ Costly airport runway fees have been foregone in favor of a barter arrangement permitting landings in Blockbuster video parking lots.
- ✶ Frequent flyer program has been scaled back so now you only get mileage credit for taxiing on the runway.
- ✶ Flight attendants are now offering lapdances.
- ✶ The computerized reservation system has been scrapped in favor of one of those "Rainman" type guys with a really good memory.
- ✶ On the way to your destination your flight flies low to dust crops.
- ✶ The barf bag reads, "If you throw up during the flight, please be considerate and leave room in the bag for the next passenger."
- ✶ Travel vouchers for delayed flights can only be redeemed for a different delayed flight.

THE FAST 5 PHRASES YOU'LL NEVER HEAR ON AN INFOMERCIAL



- 1 "People ask me if this product is for real, and I tell them no, of course not. Don't be stupid."
- 2 "You won't find it in stores, since they don't want to be implicated in all the lawsuits."
- 3 "If this product is not everything you thought it would be, simply lower your expectations to the point where it is!"
- 4 "Listen carefully, because we're only going to give out the phone number one time."
- 5 "Call within the next 15 minutes and get the exact same deal as those who call later."

KING KLUTZ



PAGES

BITTERMAN



These crappy novelty stores symbolize the decline of society. It's just a filthy display of cheap, perverted sex novelties and lame, 60s-inspired drug paraphernalia. Look around at the people in that place, Zoe - it's a congregation of Goth freaks and trailer trash, all stopping by to get a cheap laugh over phallic hand soap and battery-operated fart machines. Every fake preteen "punk" can get a nipple ring while daddy ogles Carmen Electra posters. It's a den of illiteracy, immorality and ignorance.



If you're a keen teen lookin' for awesome advice, then just...

Ask Lynne Cheney

...wife of our beloved Vice President. For candid counseling on sensitive subjects, Mrs. Cheney always has your best interests at heart.

Dear Mrs. Cheney,

My parents recently got divorced and I'm feeling pretty bad. I still love them both. Sometimes I get the feeling it was my fault. My counselor at school says I shouldn't blame myself. Why do I blame myself? Why do I feel so bad?

— Puzzled

Dear Puzzled:

It's a sad and confusing time. And at other times, it probably makes you angry and you just want to break something or smash something. Or, yes, even shoot at something if you had your own automatic weapon. It's a perfectly natural teen reaction. But where in today's society can you fire an automatic weapon or blow up something because you feel like it? Is there a place where all that is perfectly legal? A place where you can really let your anger out and do some good at the same time? A place where you can blow up an entire building by pushing one button in a spanking new Bradley Fighting Vehicle? Mmmmm, I wonder... And don't for a minute believe those lies in the media that the Bradley doesn't have "decent" armor plating. The media is such a liar. It gets me furious! The nice man at your Army Recruiting office will have many ideas to help you through this difficult time. Remember! If you're an angst-ridden adolescent with a prickly problem, don't hesitate to ASK LYNNE CHENEY.

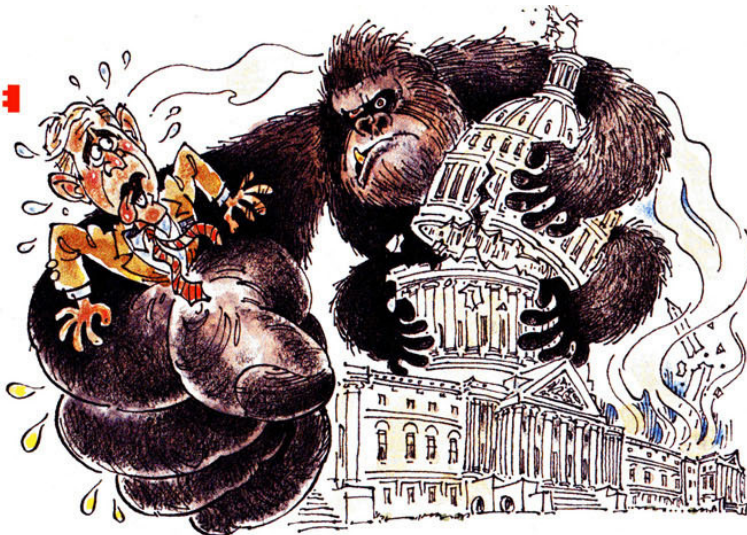


"DORIS COULDN'T MAKE IT BUT SHE WANTED YOU TO SEE HER NEW SKIRT."

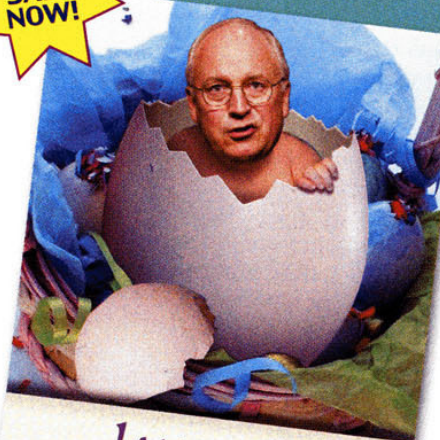
THE FUNDALINIPAGES

HOW THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION WOULD HANDLE AN ATTACK BY KING KONG

- ◆ Have Homeland Security advisory system raised to 'red' anytime a gorilla escapes from a zoo
- ◆ Let the President go on vacation and have the Humane Society take care of it
- ◆ Blame it on Al Qaeda and start wars in countries that contain jungles
- ◆ Amend the Patriot Act so the FBI can tap the phones of anyone who's bought bananas
- ◆ Cite Godzilla and Mothra as part of the "axis of evil"
- ◆ Accuse anyone who watches old *Magilla Gorilla* cartoons as giving aid and comfort to the enemy
- ◆ Give massive tax cuts to the rich



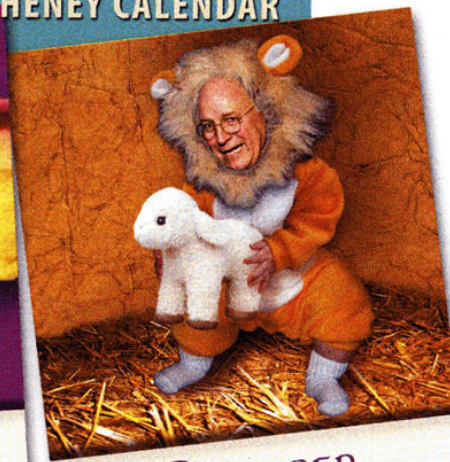
THE ANNE GEDDES 2006 DICK CHENEY CALENDAR



JANUARY

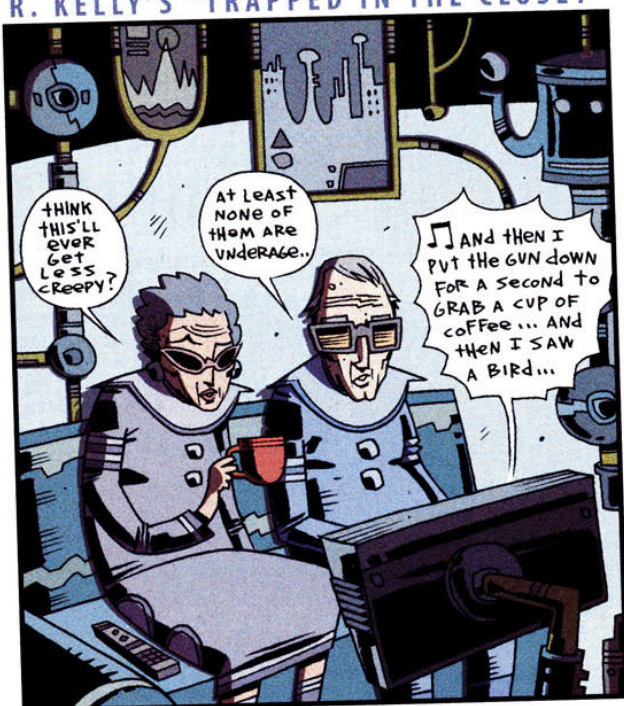


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OCTOBER

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GEORGE W. BUSH'S VALENTINE CANDY HEARTS



FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

Charles Akins	Nate Fakes	Paul Gilligan	Kevin Pope
Paul Coker	Tamara Federici	Jeff Kruse	Jack Syracuse
Dick DeBartolo	Emily Flake	Jim Mahfood	Rick Tulka
Desmond Devlin	Garth Gerhart	Brian McConnachie	P.C. Vey



MAD COWELL'S DISEASE DEPT.

After several seasons as *American Idol* judges, Randy, Paula and Simon have run out of things to say. They just spout off the same lines over and over, like a mynah bird or the cast of *Saturday Night Live*. Hey guys, if we wanted useless feedback, we'd go to a Slipknot concert! This ghastly trio needs to add a little variety to their responses. We recommend...

MAD'S DO-IT-YOURSELF

Amer

"Yo, yo, yo! What's

up, dawg
on second
new, Pussycat,
whoa-whoa-whoa-oh
for lunch
in your wallet ?

I gotta give ya , because

props
an atomic wedgie
the finger
a flu shot
the name of a
good therapist

your thing
a porno or two
wonders for
my career
drugs
Paula

you definitely did . You

were a little

pitchy
gassy
light in the loafers
teapot, short
and stout
bit drunk last night

me away
out my stomach staples
more than a
category 2 storm
the whistle on
our fixed voting
the cover of any
CIA operatives

so it didn't blow

."

ARTIST: DREW FRIEDMAN
WRITER: DARREN JOHNSON

American Idol JUDGES' CRITIQUES

"You looked

a star

Nick Nolte's mugshot

you were constipated

like

me, when I still had a legitimate career

up there.

Randy in drag

You had me

in tears

at "Hello"

back on the sauce

wetting my pants

hoping this is a dream sequence from *Lost*

Maybe not your best choice

song

medical coverage

wireless plans

mouthwash

appetizers

of

, but you

made

it your own

up the lyrics

William Hung sound like Josh Grobin

this trip for nothing

me nauseous

Great

job

Caesar's ghost

ass

balls of fire

news: I just saved a ton of money on my car insurance

"I can sum up that

absolutely dreadful

check, please

Alcoholics Anonymous

Got Milk?

Justin Guarini

performance in two words:

That was like listening to

at a hillbilly wedding

translated into Pig Latin

played through a Kazoo

over an airport PA

mashed-up with 50 Cent

. I could release that tomorrow

have a hit record

you won't see a dime

Diddy will have sampled it before noon

and

use it to torture Gitmo detainees

let Ashlee Simpson lip-synch to it

. In my opinion,

make it big

on thesmokinggun.com

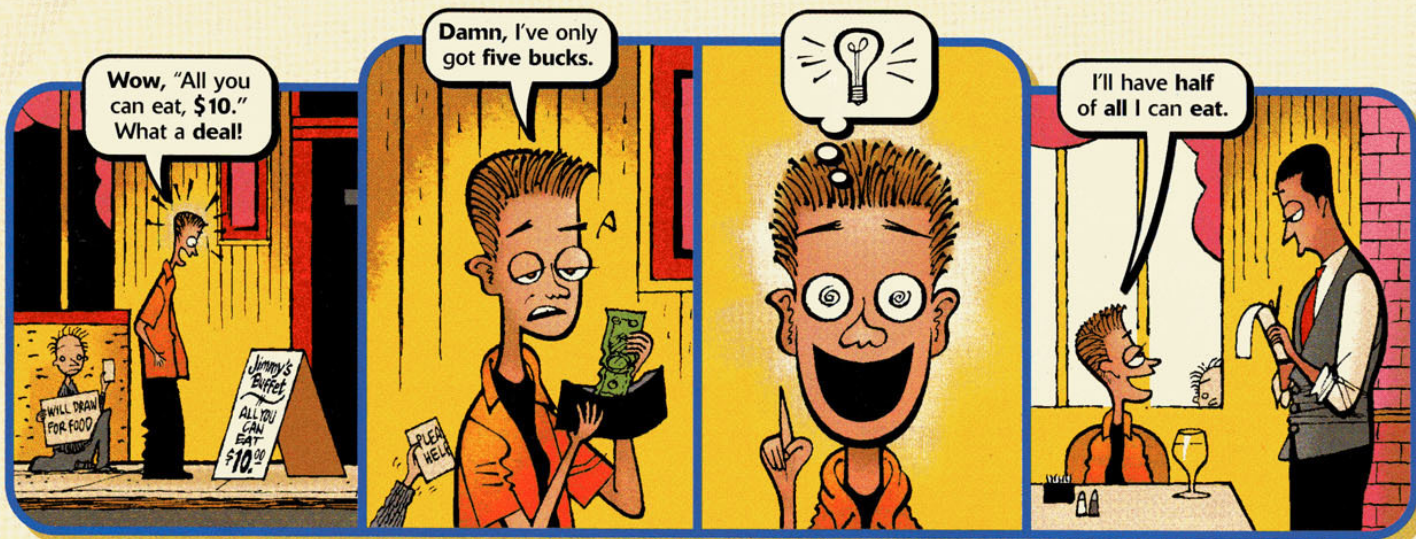
pregnant with Jude Law's baby

working the fryer at McDonald's

on welfare

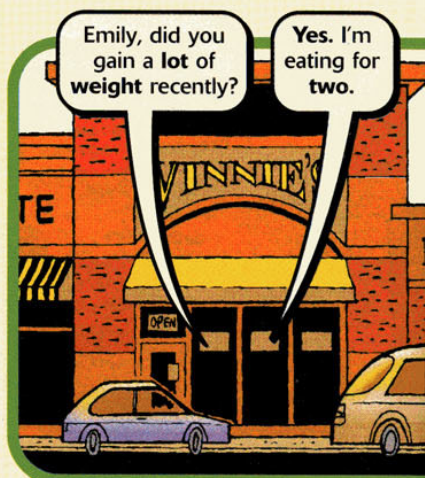
we're going to see you





EATS MEETS JEST DEPT.

TheMAD WORLDof...





You just ate!
You can't swim for
an hour or you'll
get cramps.

My teacher told me
that's a myth that's
been disproved.



Listen, just because
it's not true doesn't
make it all right!

FOOD

ARTIST: MARC HEMPEL
WRITER: STAN SINBERG

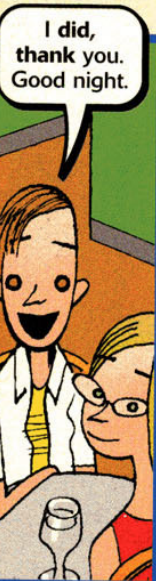


Congratulations!
How long have you
been pregnant?

I'm not...



I'm just eating
for two...



I did,
thank you.
Good night.



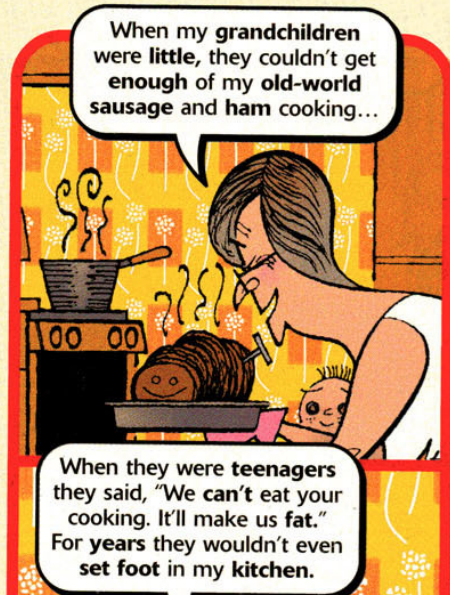
Here you go.
I'll take that
when you're
ready.



What? This
is a mistake!
We didn't
order yet!

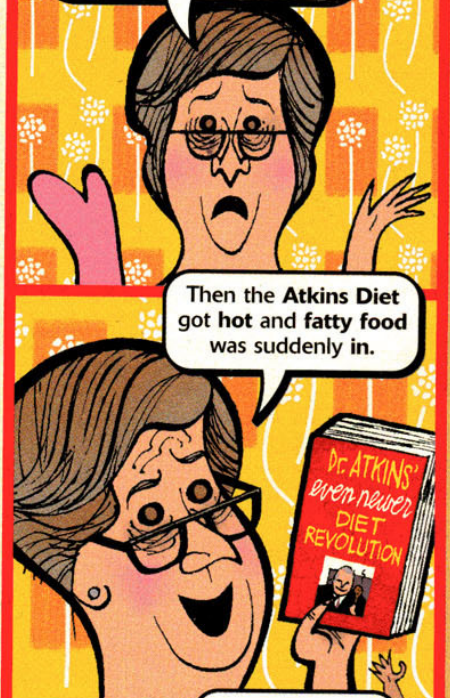


But you just
told me, "I'd like to pay
for that other couple."



When my grandchildren
were little, they couldn't get
enough of my old-world
sausage and ham cooking...

When they were teenagers
they said, "We can't eat your
cooking. It'll make us fat."
For years they wouldn't even
set foot in my kitchen.



Then the Atkins Diet
got hot and fatty food
was suddenly in.



I'm BACK, baby!

CAN'T PICK JUST ONE? NOW YOU DON'T HAVE TO!



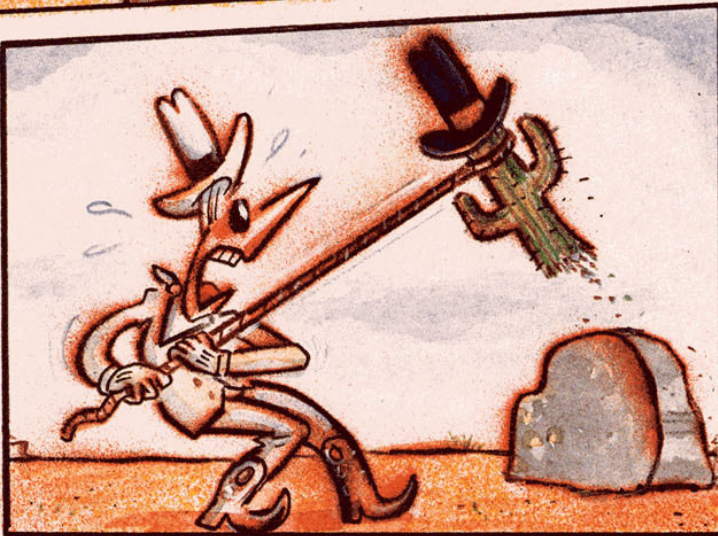
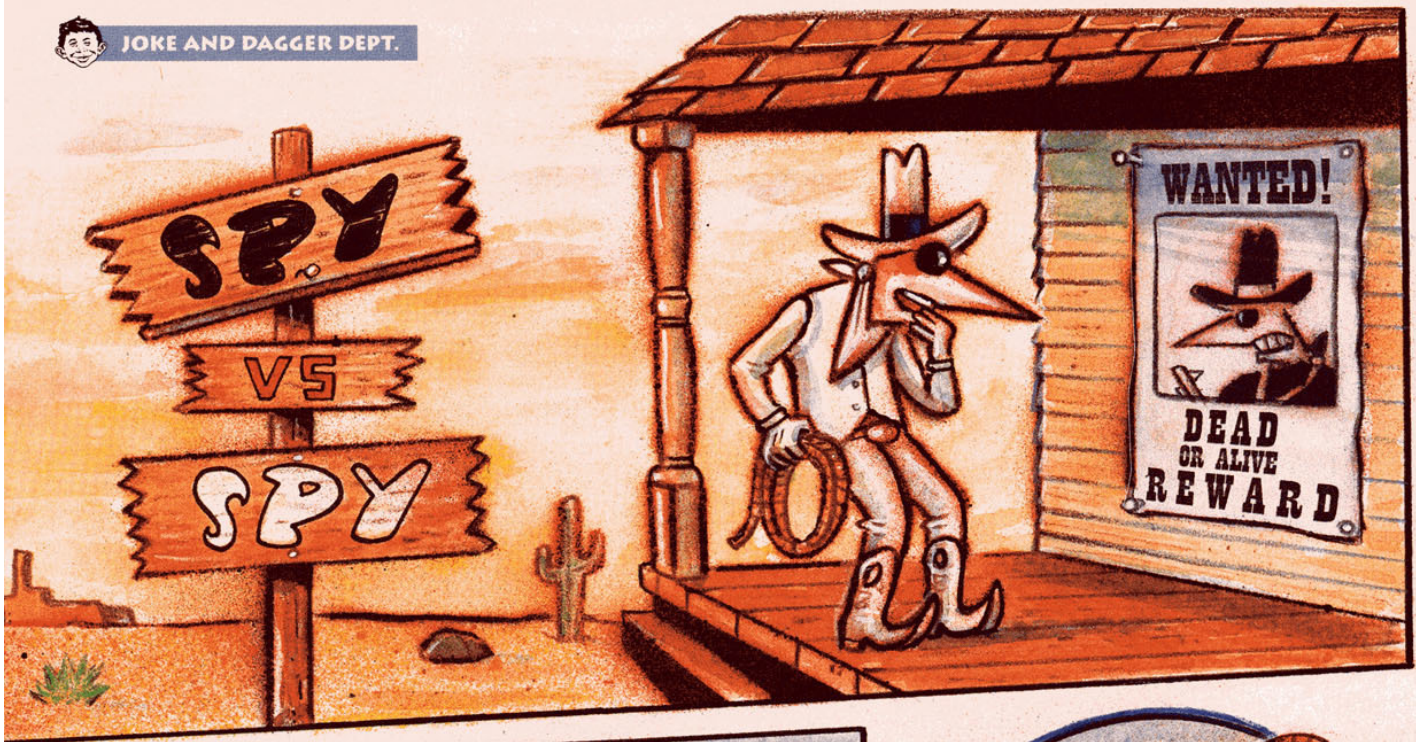
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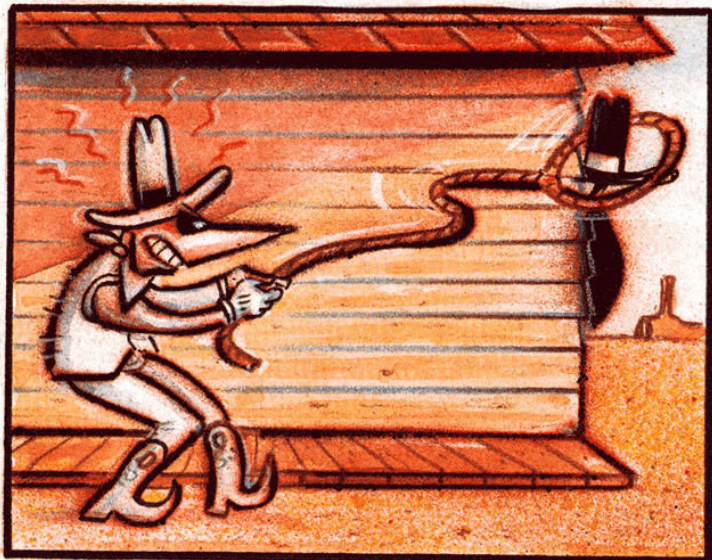
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ARTIST AND WRITER: PETER KUPER

KUPER

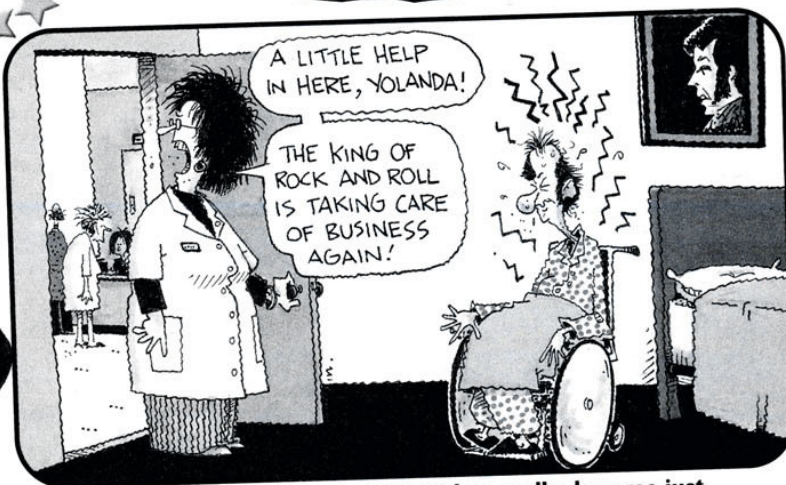


In the great circle of life, as one thing dies, another is born to take its place. And so it was with the great rock and roller Elvis Presley. Almost immediately after his death, a bevy of Elvis impersonators were born to fill our primal need to watch a sweaty, gyrating guy in a sequined jumpsuit. Sadly, many of these impersonators are now a bit past their prime and are suffering the slings and arrows that frequently accompany old age. Many of these hardworking performers have simply been forgotten, cast off to the dustbin of showbiz. But you'll remember, when MAD exposes...



ARTIST AND WRITER:
JOHN CALDWELL

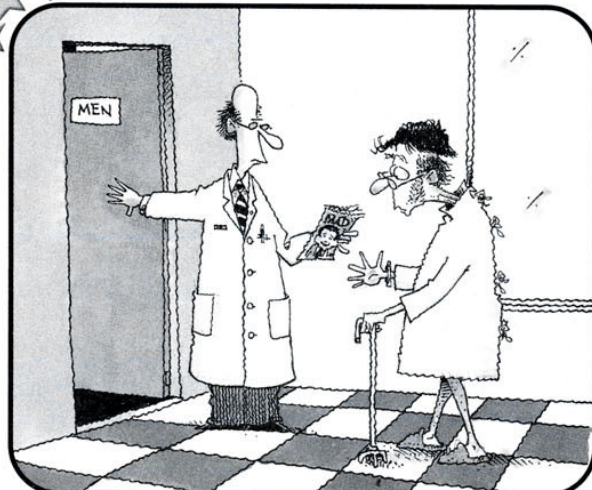
JOHN CALDWELL'S HEARTBREAKING PROBLEMS OF AGING ELVIS IMPERSONATORS



Elvis' trademark motto "T.C.B." has, sadly, become just another everyday nursing home staff code word



Few, if any, health care plans provide for the nearly bi-monthly hip replacements they require



There are currently no provisions to allow aging Elvis impersonators to die with dignity, on their own toilet



Frequent memory lapses cause him more and more to forget why he "left the building"



The classic Elvis lip curl now causes previously unforeseen problems



A society conditioned to choose between "Skinny Elvis" and "Fat Elvis" is simply unprepared to add "Dementia-Addled Elvis" to the mix



There is woefully inadequate funding to provide grilled peanut butter, banana and bacon sandwiches in the Meals on Wheels program



The overwhelming depression that sometimes accompanies Male Pattern Sideburn Baldness



The lines of the classic Elvis jumpsuit simply cannot stand up to the rigors of a fully-loaded, heavy-duty Depends





HE SUITS, HE SCORES! DEPT.

Recently, the NBA enstated a dress code requiring all players to "wear Business Casual attire whenever they are engaged in team or league business." What's next? Are they going to have the players wear some kind of uniform? (Wait...nevermind.) As we say goodbye to velour jump suits, sunglasses and bling, and wave a big hello to khakis, turtlenecks and blazers, we present...

THE GOOD AND BAD POINTS

GOOD POINT



We'll be spared, for now, the sight of a 7'6" Chinese man in a do-rag

BAD POINT



Even dressed up in 3-piece suits, players still won't exude the same raw sexual energy as NBA Commissioner David Stern

BAD POINT

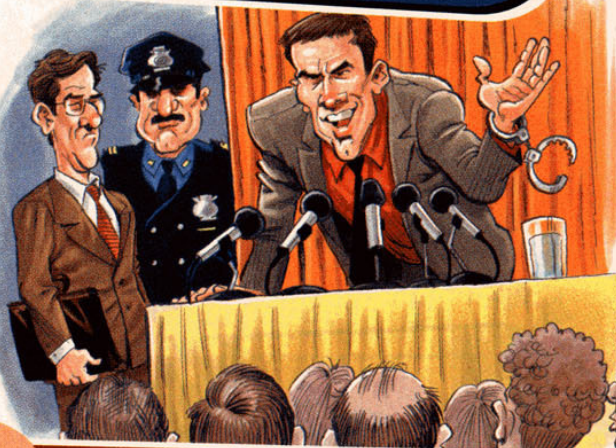
Man, now I gotta get this \$@*% dry cleaned!



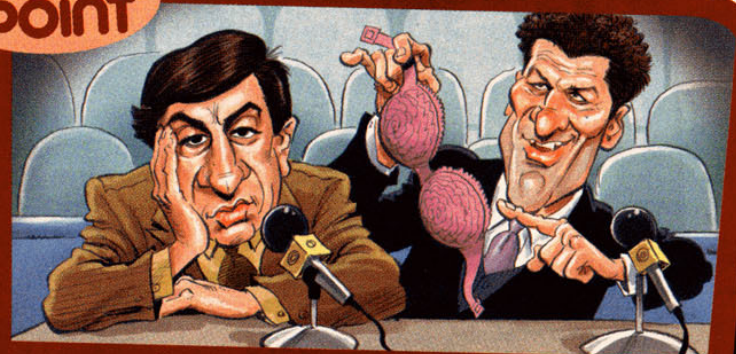
Now, when fans throw soda and popcorn at the players, the stains are much more expensive to remove

GOOD POINT

Players can now go from their press conferences to their assault trials without having to change



GOOD POINT



Marv Albert may finally find the perfect foil in his new color man — Isaac Mizrahi

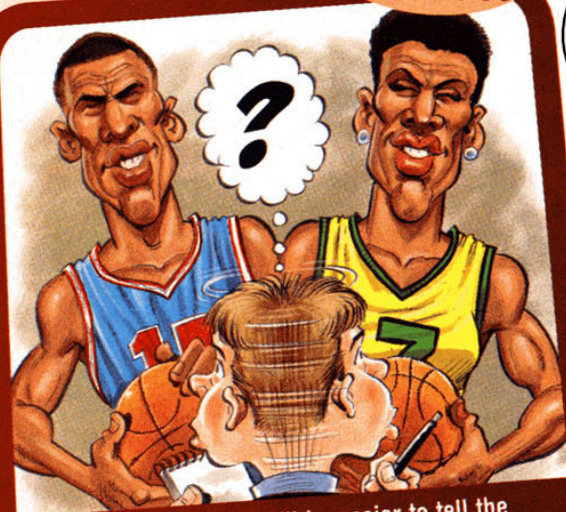
OF THE new NBA DRESS CODE

GOOD POINT

Players now 50% less likely to be passed up by cab drivers



GOOD POINT



Without earrings, it'll be easier to tell the NBA players from the WNBA players

Oh, oh! It's Steven Marbury! Last time I saw pants that long, they were on a guy wearing stilts!

My name's Stephon. And aren't you dead yet?

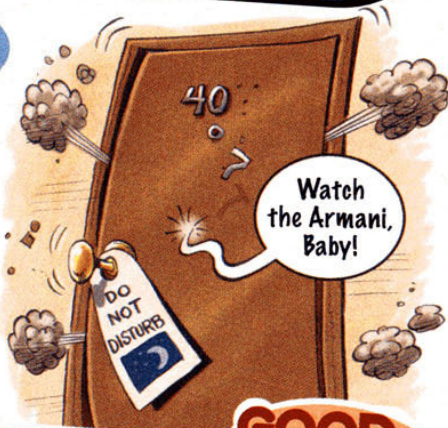
BAD POINT



It's only a matter of time before the Pre-Game show is replaced by "red carpet" coverage with Joan and Melissa Rivers.

BAD POINT

Untucking the dress shirt, undoing a tie, removing the sportscoat — all take away from time that could be spent impregnating groupies



GOOD POINT



The new policy will mean classier hand-me-downs for the stars' illegitimate children

BAD POINT



Press conferences delayed for hours as players make sure their trouser pleats are juuuuuust right

BAD POINT

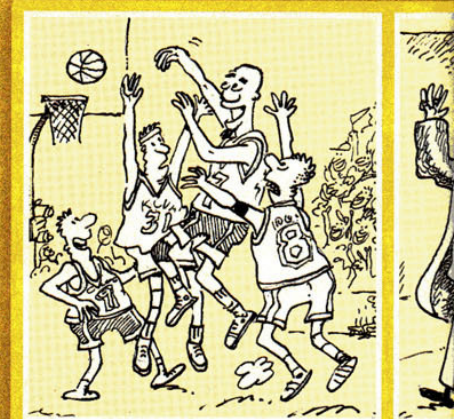
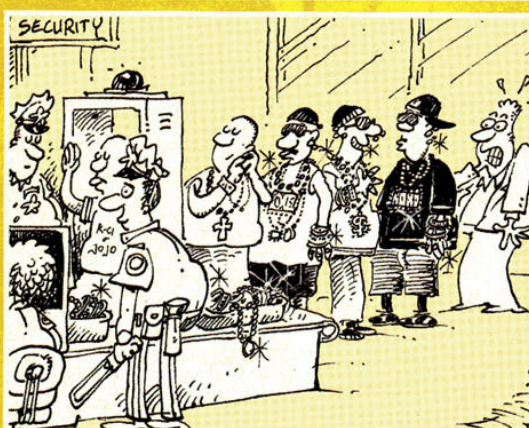
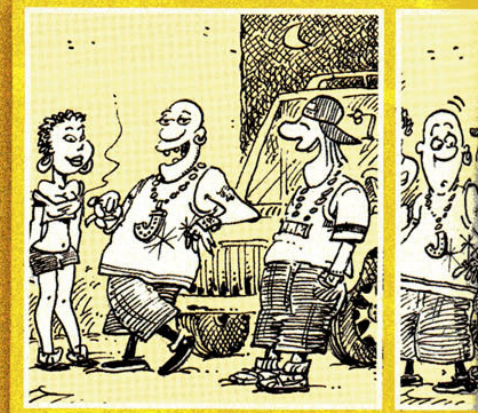
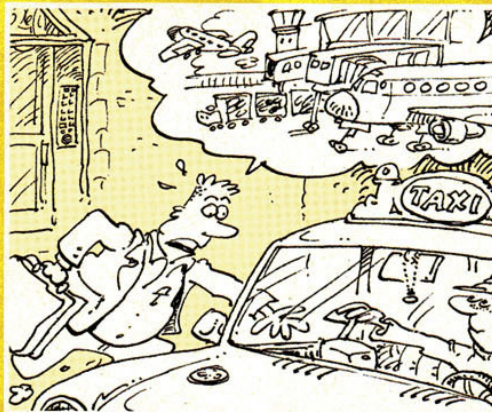
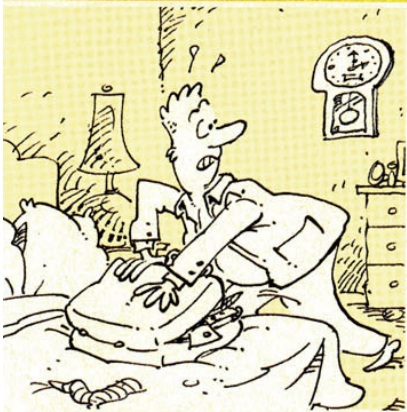
The launch of LeBron James' new shoe is just not as cool when it's a Bruno Magli wingtip



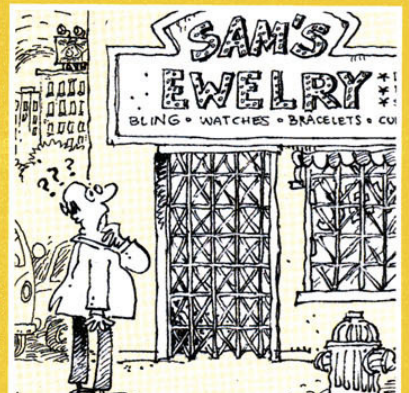
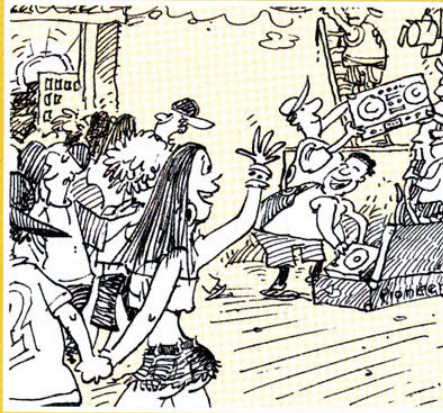


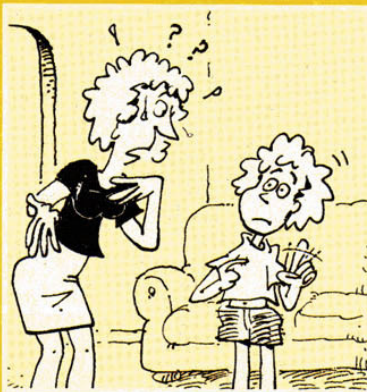
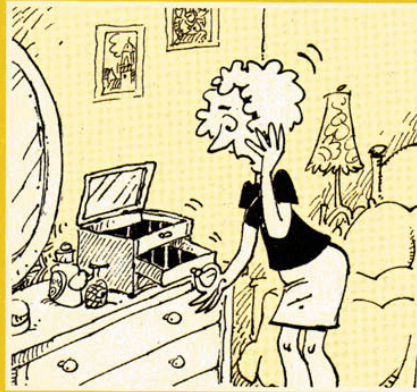
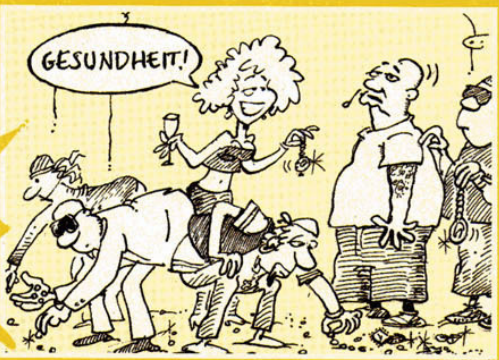
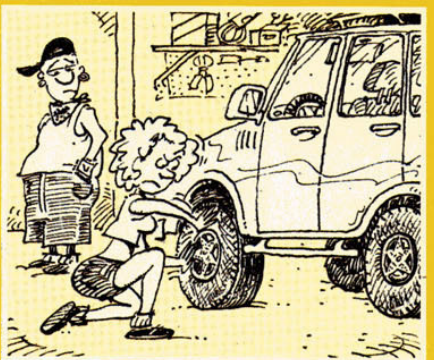
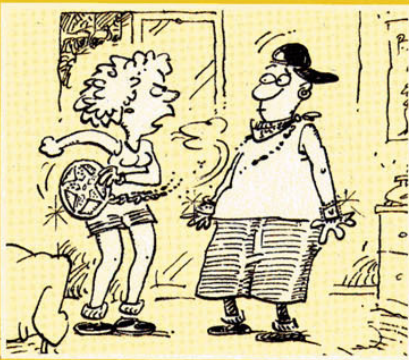
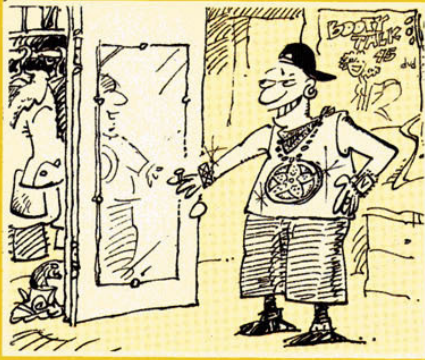
SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

Sergio Aragonés presents A MAD LOOK



AT BLING

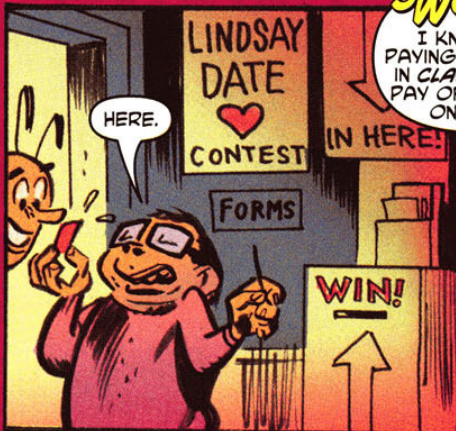
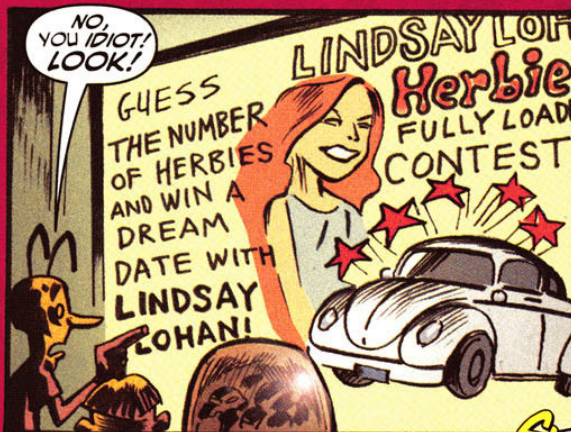
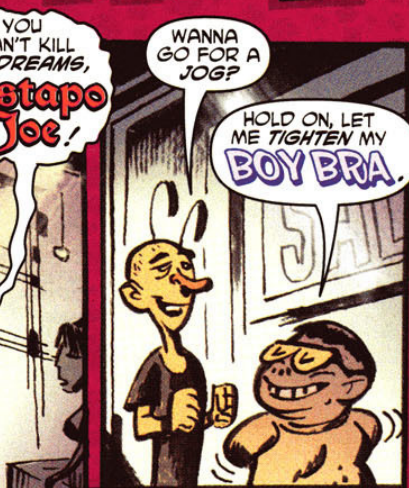
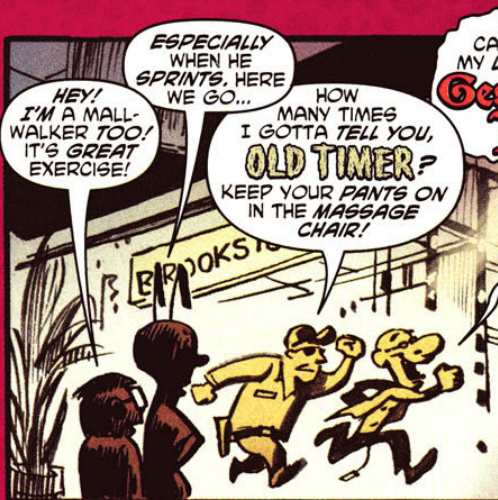




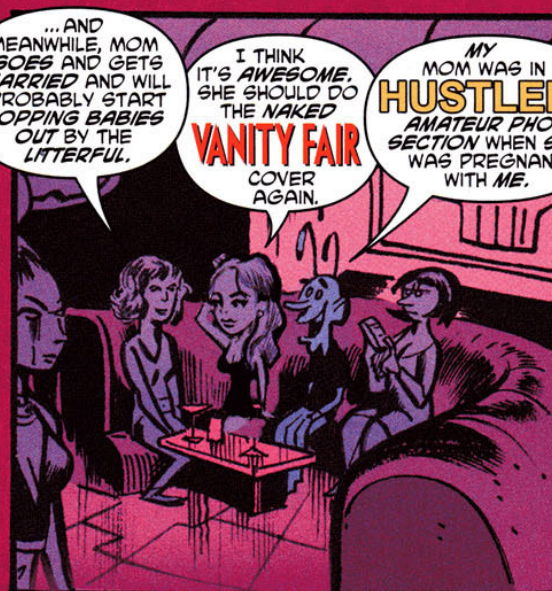
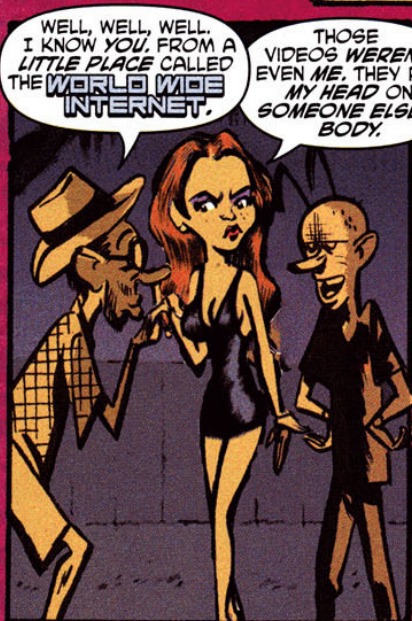


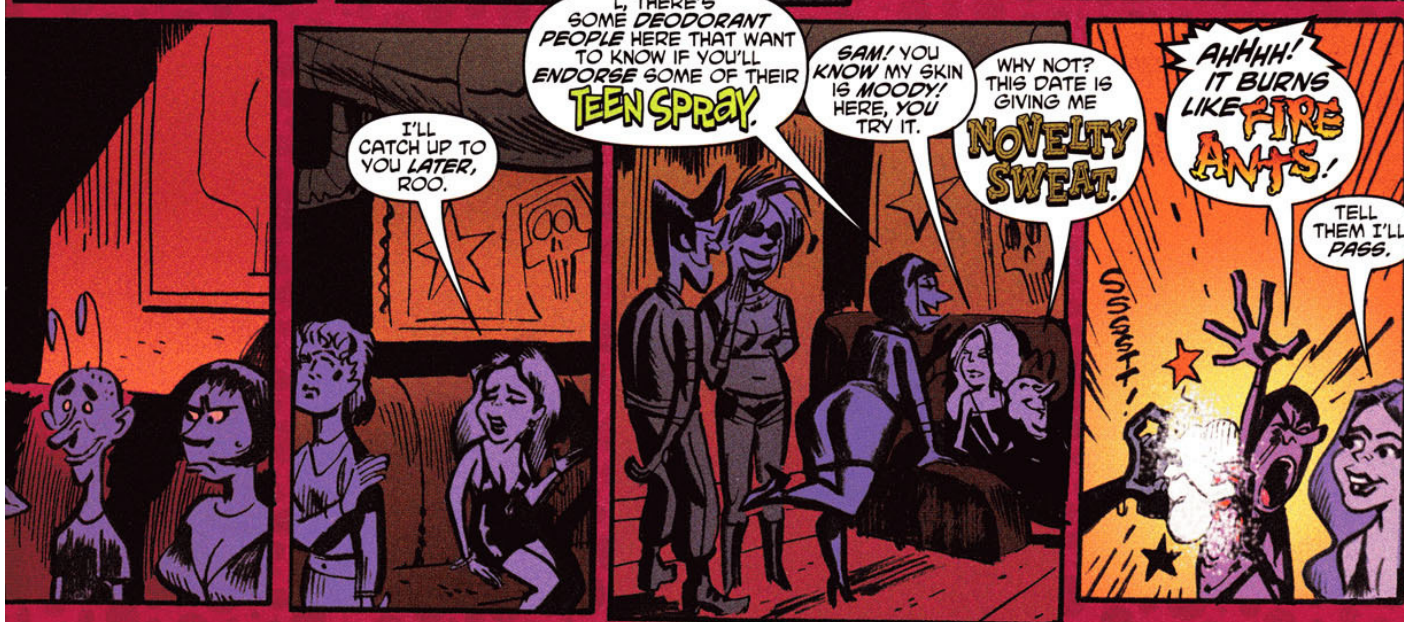
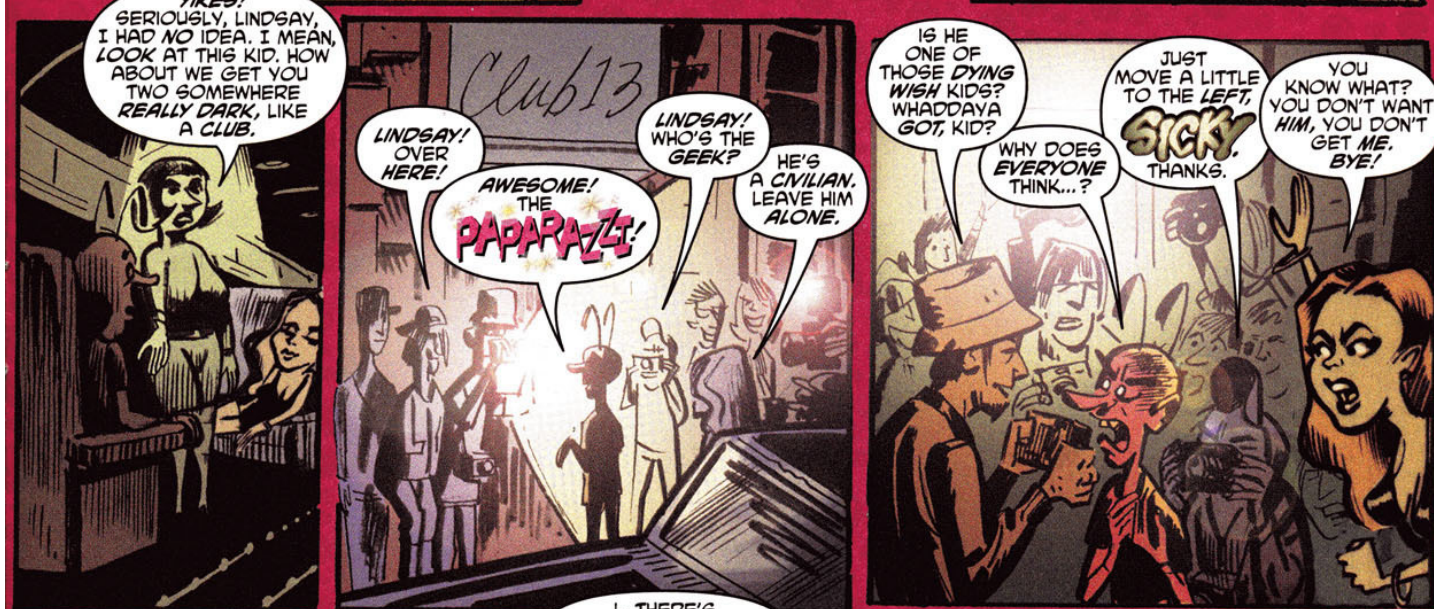
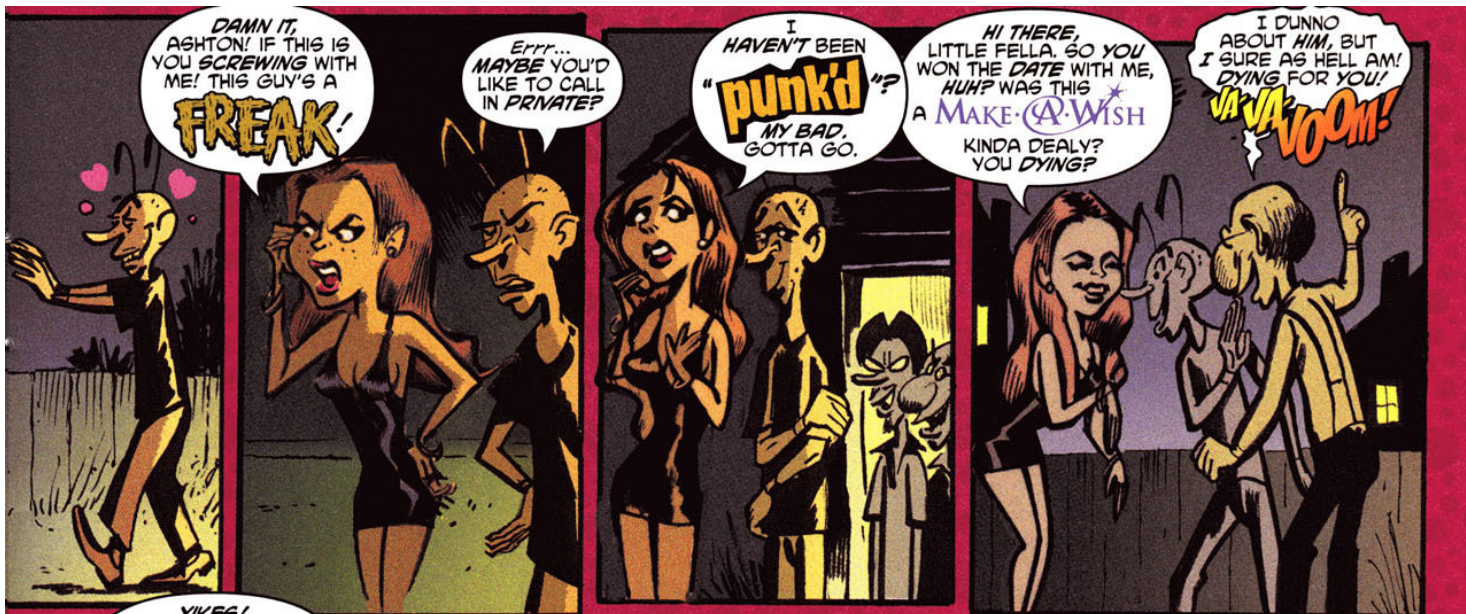
It'll be a
blind date —
after she
gouges her eyes
out. It's...

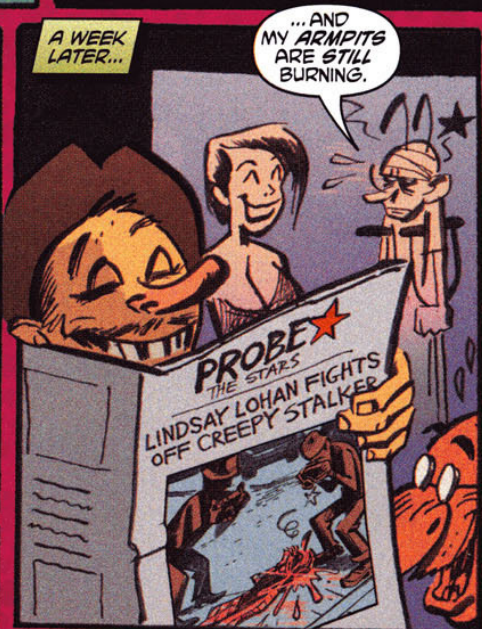
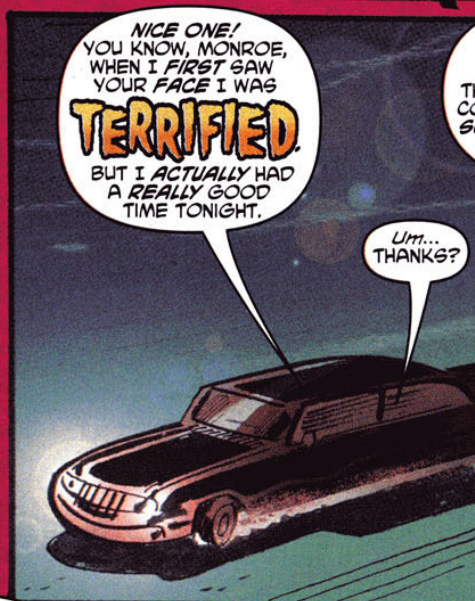
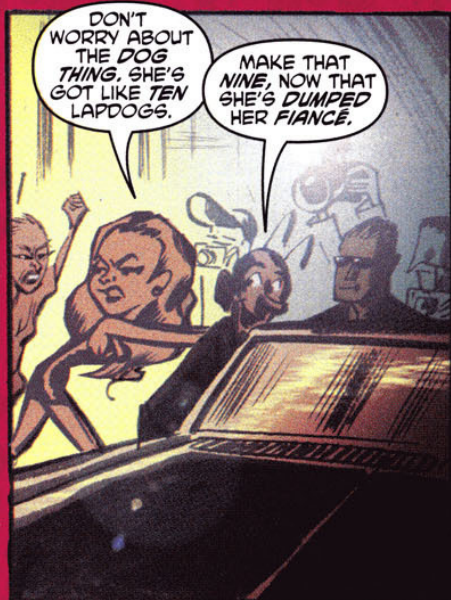
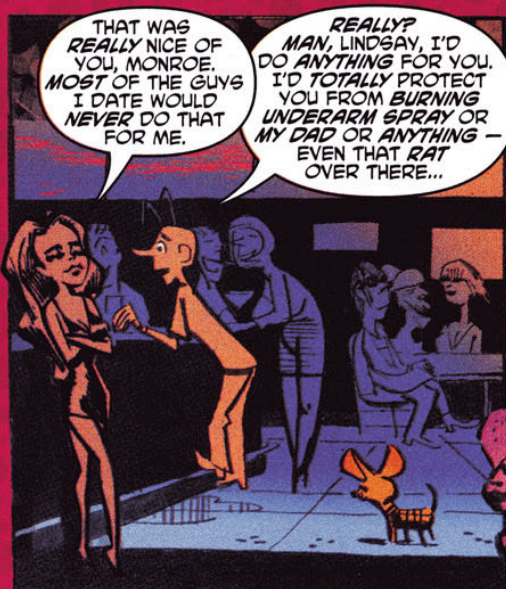
MONROE and... The DREAM DATE

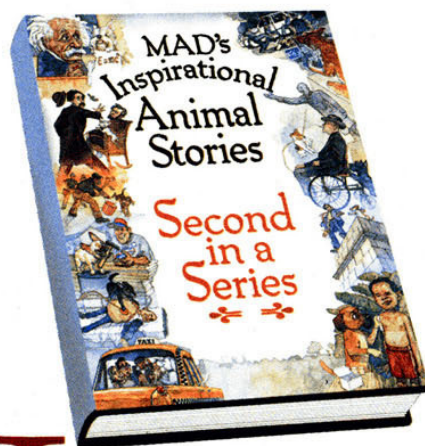


2 WEEKS LATER...









The Dog That Played Football for Notre Dame



It's the dream of a lot of boys to grow up and play football for Notre Dame. But could you say the same thing about a dog? You could if its name was Mr. Muffles. He was an NCAA legend that left his mark on that university located at South Bend, Indiana.

It all began one fall afternoon when I was headed back to my dorm. This big dog came out of nowhere and started chasing me. He sounded angry and dangerous. I scampered up a tree.

Sometimes people are cruel to dogs and the dogs turn mean. But it's not the dog's fault. This dog's attempt to attack me was, in fact, a cry for help.

I happened to have a sandwich in my bag that I gave to the

dog. While he ate, I climbed down, thinking, "What can I do for this dog?"

I decided to name him Mr. Muffles, a gentle name, and I took him back to live in my dorm room.

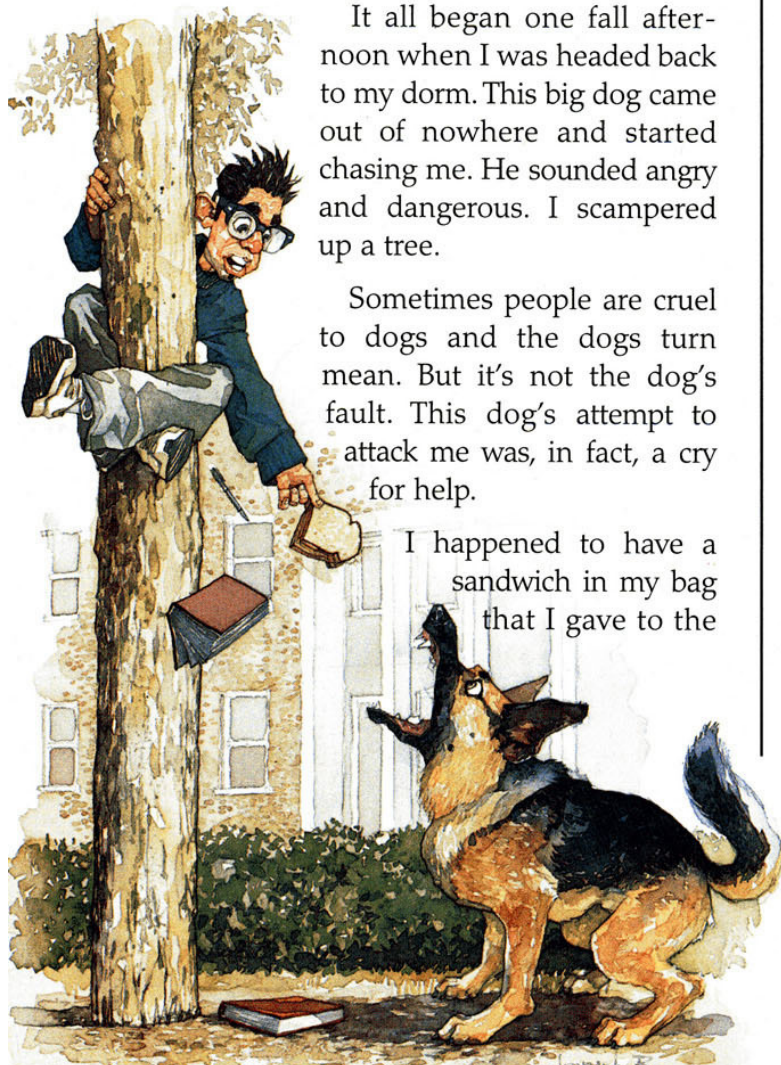
My roommate was the All-American wide receiver, Walter Washington. He was as strong as he was big and fast.

I wasn't there when Walter and Mr. Muffles first met. But something special must've happened between them — a magic bond of some kind.

They'd love to roughhouse. Someone who didn't know better might think they were trying to hurt each other. Like the time Walter hit Mr. Muffles over the head with a wrench while the dog was taking a nap. Then, Mr. Muffles bit Walter so deep it exposed his thighbone. But I knew they were only playing.

One time, Walter hog-tied Mr. Muffles and threw him in the closet. This was probably a test to see how fast Mr. Muffles could free himself. They both loved testing each other, although Walter never really explained why. For some reason, a few weeks earlier he stopped talking to me altogether.

It didn't take Mr. Muffles long to chew through that rope and break down the closet door. Walter had been leaning out a window talking to a teammate below. Mr.



Muffles ran at Walter, no doubt to show off how quickly he had freed himself, but this time their horseplay went too far, and he accidentally pushed Walter out of our third-story window.

Walter's fall to the cement court below broke his collarbone, three ribs and his wrist.

Mr. Muffles tried sneaking into the infirmary that night, most likely to show Walter how sorry he was, but the staff prevented it.

Walter's recovery went better than expected. His body was healing nicely and he was ready to play some football. There was only one game left in the season and it was against their archrivals, the University of Southern California.

Little time remained in that game, and Notre Dame was trailing when the coach decided to send in Walter.

They threw a pass to Walter, who made a terrific catch, but he was hit hard by three USC defenders. He punctured a lung and re-broke two of his three previously-broken ribs.

They carefully put him on the gurney, strapped him in and pushed him over to the sidelines, where they waited for the ambulance.

Then, out of nowhere, came Mr. Muffles. Perhaps he sensed there was a broken play about to happen. He ran as fast as he could to the gurney and pushed Walter back out onto the field near the end-zone just as the ball landed right in Walter's lap!

Before the referee could call this strange play, the USC defenders pounced on Walter, collapsing the gurney and breaking three more of his ribs. But the momentum of the USC players pushed the collapsed gurney across the goal line. "Touchdown! Notre Dame!" yelled the referee.

The hometown fans couldn't contain their jubilation! If it weren't for that amazing, quick thinking, football-loving dog, Notre Dame would have lost by the totally lopsided score of 54 to 3 instead of the far more respectable 54 to 9.

Hail, hail to you, Mr. Muffles — the dog that played football for Notre Dame and "won" everyone's love.

—Tom White, age 37

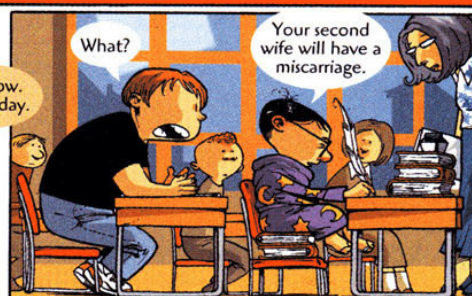
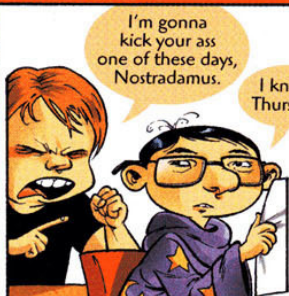
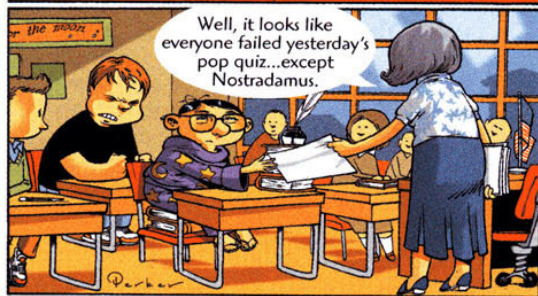




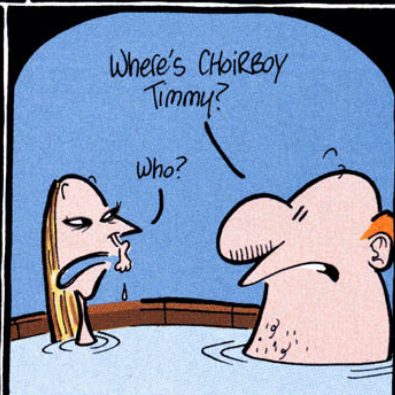
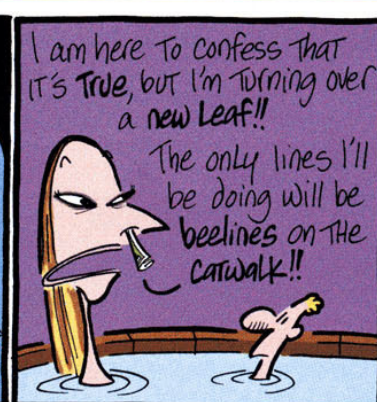
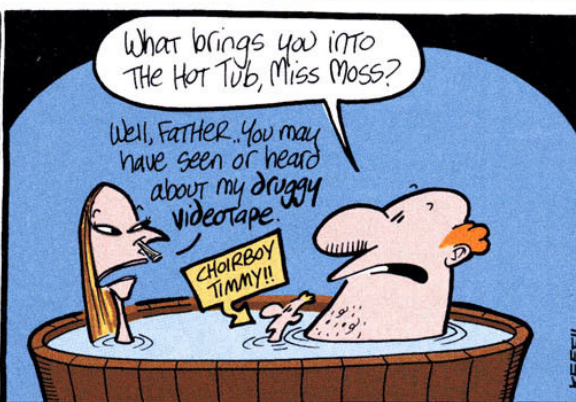
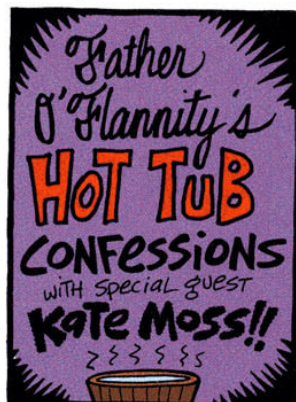
PEN AND STINK DEPT.

THE STRIP CLUB

MIDDLE SCHOOL Nostradamus



SIMON RICH/M.K. PERKER



KEITH KNIGHT

THE STRIP CLUB



RICH MOYER

YOUR ONLY DEFENSE AGAINST THE ZEITGEIST!



"POKER 'POCALYPSE!"

Excited over USA Network's "Matlock" marathon, Santon is stunned to find it pre-empted by a new POKER show!

Affleck playing POKER NEXT!

Santon is shaken. The idea of watching celebrities play poker instead of playing it yourself is deeply disturbing. Communal games like poker are meant to keep society **INTERACTING** with each other. **TELEVISED CELEBRITY POKER** would rip us apart!

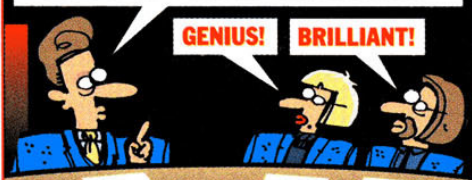
Dude, play poker with YOUR FRIENDS, don't watch it on TV! STOP IT!!!

Shhhhhshhhhh! Ben Affleck and Skeet Ulrich ARE my friends, dude!



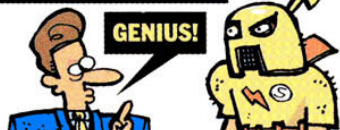
As Santon tries to convince folks that they aren't actually playing poker with Affleck, **EVIL TV EXECUTIVES** try to up the ante!!!

How 'bout **"CELEBRITY COOKOUT! ®"** Why have your own cookout, when you can watch a COOKOUT on TV that has CELEBRITIES?!!



With televised poker and televised cookouts **threatening to END ALL SOCIAL INTERACTION**, Santon must beat 'em at their OWN GAME!

Dude, why have YOUR OWN TV development meeting when you can watch a TV development meeting on TV that has CELEBRITIES?!



The evil TV executive is quickly mesmerized, and **NEVER** develops any shows again!

Unfortunately, now the celebrities on the TV development TV show start developing their own!



Genius idea, Ben!

Well, I kind of won!

DON ASMUSSEN

JUMP CUT

JERRY MAGUIRE



PAUL GILLIGAN

THE ONE SUPERHERO WHO
SIMPLY CANNOT BE BEATEN...*

MEET

FANTABULAMAN

* INCREDIBLY,
PEOPLE
STILL TRY,
THOUGH.

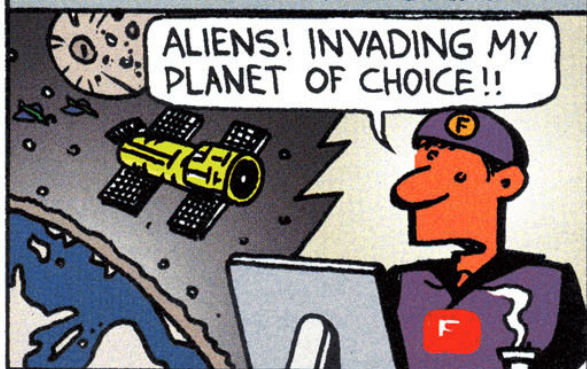


EARTH'S WOULD-BE SUPERVILLAINS,
COWED AND DETERRED BY
FANTABULAMAN'S FAMED UNDEFEAT-
ABILITY, HAVE STOPPED EVEN TRYING
TO CARRY OUT ANY NEFARIOUS SCHEMES.



@*#!! I
CAN'T BELIEVE
THEY POURED
FROM THE
BOTTOM OF
THE POT!

AS PIPED-IN IMAGES FROM THE
HUBBLE TELESCOPE ATTEST,
HOWEVER, EXTRATERRESTRIALS
HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE MESSAGE!



ALIENS! INVADING MY
PLANET OF CHOICE!!

FANTABULAMAN SPRINGS INTO ACTION!
APPLYING HIS POWER OF MENTAL
TELEPORTATION, HE MATERIALIZES AT
THE CONTROLS OF THE LEAD ALIEN SHIP!



...SO I TELL HER TO
WRING IT OUT
AFTER SHE-WHAT?
WHO?

CALL ME THE GUY
WHO'S FLYING YOUR
SHIP-INTO OUR SUN!

THE ALIEN FLEET, LOCKED INTO
AUTOPILOT UNDER THE CONTROL
OF THE MOTHER SHIP, FOLLOWS
IT TO FIERY 4,500,000°F DOOM!



DAMN!

OUCH!

"JOIN THE MILITARY,"
MOM SAID. "IT'S A
STEADY JOB" SHE
SAID. THANKS, MOM.

HOT DAMN!

FANTABULAMAN EFFORTLESSLY
TRANSPORTS BACK TO A BLISSFULLY
UNGRATEFUL EARTH $\frac{1}{100}$ TH OF A
SECOND BEFORE THE MOTHER SHIP
HITS THE SUN.



NOW, TO GET
BACK TO THAT
SCREENPLAY...

CRACK

NEXT: BRING IN THE CLONES!



AMERICAN IDOL ALSO RANS: Where Are They Now?

For every Kelly, Ruben, and the other two who gained fame and/or fortune on *American Idol*, there are countless thousands who did not.

SEASON 3, HONOLULU AUDITION

UNIQUE GIMMICK: Lip synching to Ashlee Simpson albums, which he unsuccessfully claimed was "an ironic commentary on the state of modern music."

NAIL IN HIS COFFIN: The large "Death to Simon" tattoo on his exposed chest

POST-AUDITION QUOTE: "Anybody got \$1.25 for the bus ride home?"

PAULA'S COMMENT: "Good God, that sucked...in a nice, uplifting way."

FAVORITE MUSICAL MEMENTO: A temporary restraining order signed by Kelly Clarkson herself

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: Scat yodeling isn't as popular as it used to be

**DeTangelo
Grendel**



**Slash
Bamford**

SEASON 4, SAN FRANCISCO AUDITION

UNIQUE GIMMICK: Openly boasted about being 75 pounds heavier than Ruben Studdard

DOWNFALL: Insisted on performing love songs he wrote himself, all of which contain the words "thumbscrew," "retaliate" and "scabies"

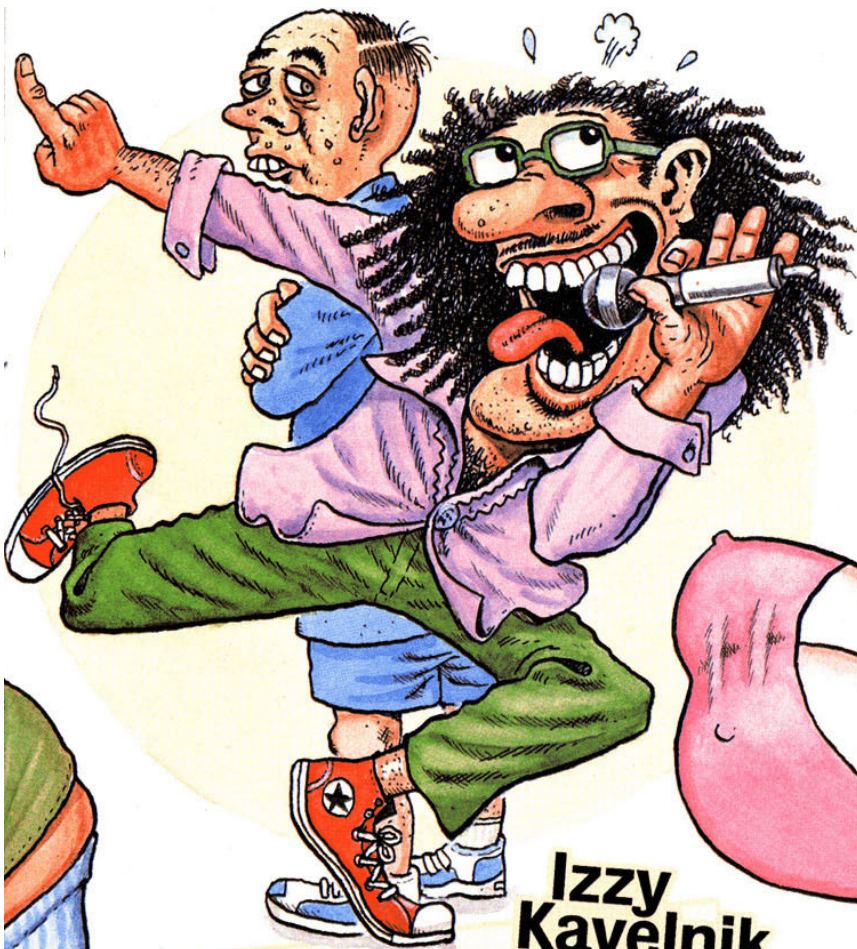
PAULA'S OPINION: "That was just so wonderful. I loved it."

POST-AUDITION QUOTE: "Can I have my Bowie knife back now?"

WHERE IS HE NOW?: Personal assistant to UN Ambassador John Bolton

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: Ingesting helium before each number hurts more than it helps

ARTIST: TOM BUNK
WRITER: JEFF KRUSE



Izzy Kavelnik

SEASON 1, LOS ANGELES AUDITION

CLAIM TO FAME: Considered "The Weird Al Yankovic of 18th Century German Operas."

DOWNFALL: Spent 10 minutes arguing the virtues of Roe Vs. Wade, before discovering they weren't those kinds of judges

FUN FACT: He's technically not part of a duo, since his conjoined twin doesn't sing

RANDY'S OPINION: "As a Grammy winner myself, let me just say that there are so many categories that everyone in this industry eventually wins one."

WHERE IS HE NOW?: Lead triangle player for The Bangshees, a William Hung tribute band

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: Just about anyone can do Ryan Seacrest's job

SEASON 3, ATLANTA AUDITION

SIGNATURE TUNE: "Whoops, I Did It Once More"

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE: 36DD bra size

POST-AUDITION QUOTE: "Some people wait a lifetime for a moment like this...hey, that's a good line. Let me write that down."

SIMON SAYS: "Absolutely, without doubt, the most unoriginal, derivative act we've ever seen."

WHERE IS SHE NOW?: About to sign an 8-figure recording deal

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: None

Britannia Spikes



Herb Gherkin

SEASON 2, CHICAGO AUDITION

UNIQUE GIMMICK: The oldest contestant at 86, though he claimed to be 23

POST-AUDITION QUOTE: "Well, at least I didn't get gonged, so that's a positive."

SIMON SAYS: "Absolutely fantastic, which I mean in the most negative sense."

WHERE IS HE NOW?: Dead

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: Given the number of contestants, there weren't nearly enough bathrooms at this venue





Bernice Gravlox

SEASON 3, HOUSTON AUDITION

UNIQUE GIMMICK: Half-hour rant about how the CIA had both John Lennon and Tupac Shakur killed, all to the accompaniment of calliope music

ATTITUDE PROBLEM: Kept insisting her name is actually pronounced "Beyoncé"

SIGNATURE TUNE: She crooned a slow, soulful version of "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall." But only the even-numbered verses

RANDY'S OPINION: "I'm sorry, I was on my cell phone. Could you do the whole thing again?"

WHERE IS SHE NOW?: Somehow ended up on the Arizona Diamondbacks as a result of the Manny Ramirez trade, though the logistics are still unclear

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: If you're going to bribe a judge, don't do it when the cameras are rolling

Klaus Fleugenheuvel

SEASON 3, NEW YORK AUDITION

UNIQUE GIMMICK: Considered himself an honorary Village Person — which sort of explained the forest ranger outfit, though not the rubber Elephant Man mask

BIG DISAPPOINTMENT: Didn't get the expected sympathy vote from his recent tracheotomy

PAULA'S OPINION: "If you think I'm sleeping with you, you're crazy."

POST-AUDITION QUOTE: "I liked Ed McMahon on *Star Search* a lot better than you jerks."

VALUABLE LESSON LEARNED: Having all your friends call up and vote for you doesn't work unless you make it onto the show itself



Leila-Lee Lee

SEASON 5, DENVER AUDITION

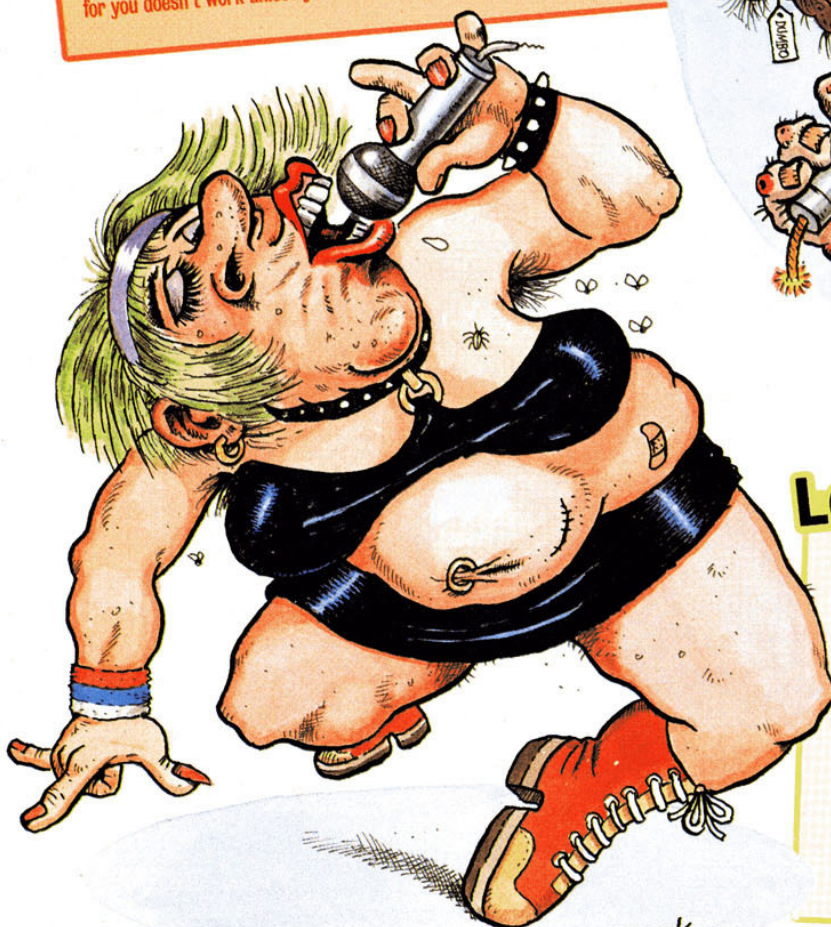
SHOW PREP: Lacing the drinks of competitors with crushed sleeping pills in the green room

SIGNATURE TUNE: "The 12 Days of Christmas," the lines of which she kept forgetting, adding things like "8 yaks a-feeding" and "11 guys with lupus."

POST-AUDITION QUOTE: "I'm glad I took this risk. The worst that can happen is that my dreams are crushed and my life completely ruined."

SIMON'S COMMENT: "If we wanted to hear a middle-aged, shrieking bimbo, then Paula would be a contestant and not a judge."

WHERE IS SHE NOW?: Singing at Guantanamo Bay, which the U.S. military hopes will get detainees to talk, or she'll just keep on singing



Tom Bunk

ARTIST: PETER BAGGE

BOOK

A person with short brown hair, seen from behind, wearing large white headphones. They are looking up at a bright blue sky filled with wispy white clouds. The person is wearing an orange shirt. The overall mood is one of listening and looking up, suggesting a connection to music and the sky.

1001 ALBUMS
YOU MUST HEAR BEFORE YOU DIE

Produced by **Robbin Thompson** • Includes 101 interviews with artists • Hardcover • \$24.95



DVD

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ON SALE NOW!

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And coming on February 21,

MAD KIDS #2!

Featuring:

Spy Vs. Spy Jr!



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Alfred's Brain Drool!



An Exclusive Interview with American Idol Winner Carrie Underwood!

Plus Tons More Stupidity!



GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!

GADGET

iZ
Zizzle

The Hype: iZ is the ultimate fusion of music and toy! iZ's eyes bounce, and nose pulses in rainbow colors to the beat. Plays music from CD player, PC, MP3, iPod or any music device that uses a standard headset cable. Twist his ears to create new rhythms and lead tracks; press his belly to change the beat.

The Snipe: Twist his ears? Press his belly? What happens if you just kick him in the 'nads?



GAME

MVP 06 NCAA BASEBALL

PS2, Xbox • Electronic Arts



The Hype: MVP 06 NCAA Baseball features an exclusive NCAA Baseball license with 128 universities, the top conferences, plus 19 authentic ballparks including Rosenblatt Stadium, home of the NCAA College World Series in Omaha. The game also features a live ESPN ticker, as well as news from ESPN.com and updates from ESPN Radio Sportscenter.

The Snipe: So it's come to this: you're playing a game where the goal is to get to Omaha.

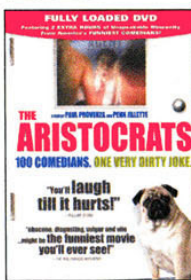
DVD

THE ARISTOCRATS

Think Film Company Inc. • January 24

The Hype: More than 100 comedians reminisce, analyze, deconstruct and deliver their own versions of the world's dirtiest joke, an old burlesque routine too extreme to be performed in public, called "The Aristocrats."

The Snipe: Thanks to the overwhelming success of this documentary, we can probably expect Disney to do kid-friendly ripoffs about "knock-knock" jokes and the riddle "What's black and white and red all over?"



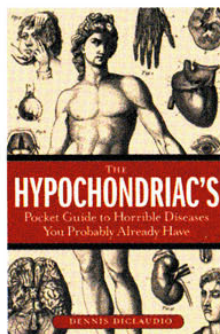
BOOK

THE HYPOCHONDRIAC'S POCKET GUIDE TO HORRIBLE DISEASES YOU PROBABLY ALREADY HAVE

DENNIS DICLAUDIO
Bloomsbury • \$14.95 • 208 pages • February

The Hype: Profiling many of the most disgusting, painful, life-threatening diseases like Ascariasis, Cancrum Oris, Schistosomiasis and Bejel that may be living in our bodies, this book will force everyone to become obsessive hand washers.

The Snipe: Sounds like the author has TiVo'd one too many episodes of House!



BOOK

DRAWING ACTION MANGA

KEITH SPARROW
CollinsDesign • \$16.95 • 96 pages • February

The Hype: Learn how to create the dynamic characters and sequences of Japanese comics. It gives you a list of needed materials, explains various techniques and offers 10 individual projects to practice with.

The Snipe: Given how every pimply-faced kid with a pencil and piece of paper wants to learn how to draw manga, we hope there's a chapter teaching them after mastering it how they can live on \$300 a year income!



MUSIC

VOICES MATCHBOOK ROMANCE

February 14 • Epitaph Records

The Hype: After touring locally and pushing their music over the internet, the Poughkeepsie-based punk band got the attention of Epitaph records, who are releasing their second full-length album.

The Snipe: We anxiously anticipate their latest offering — any band that's managed to dominate the punk scene in Poughkeepsie has got to be good!



GAME

KING KONG: THE OFFICIAL MOBILE GAME OF THE MOVIE

Gameleft • Mobile

The Hype: From the dense jungles of Skull Island to the magnificent skyscrapers of Manhattan, the adventure begins here. Incorporating the main characters from the film, the game takes you on a whirlwind adventure where Jack and Kong risk everything to protect Ann. Groundbreaking dual gameplay allows you to step into the role of Kong or Jack, filling both action and adventure needs.

The Snipe: Yeesh. They sure say "adventure" a lot. Maybe they should have built a groundbreaking the-saurus into this thing.



GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!

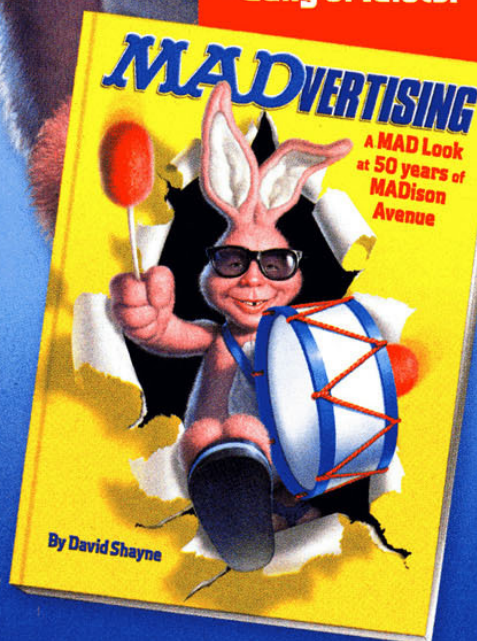
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GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!

ARENA FOOTBALL **GAME**

PS2, Xbox • Electronic Arts

The Hype: Experience the intensity and passion of the indoor gridiron for the first time with EA SPORTS Arena Football. Build an AFL powerhouse and challenge the best players in the nation with head-to-head online play or take it to the promised land in "Season" mode.

The Snipe: "Take it to the promised land"? We want to be Bill Parcells, not frickin' Moses!



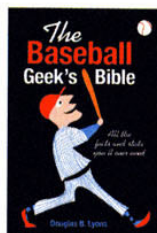
BOOK

THE BASEBALL GEEK'S BIBLE DOUGLAS B. LYONS

MQ Publications • \$14.95 • 160 pages • February

The Hype: This book pays tribute to the most memorable, awe-inspiring and surprising moments in the history of baseball. From the first World Series in 1903 and Roger Maris' 61st record-breaking home run to the Sosa/McGwire slugfest, you'll find all the key moments in the history of baseball covered!

The Snipe: We sure hope that Babe Ruth's boozing, Ty Cobb's blatant racism, Palmeiro's steroid abuse and the fact that Ted Williams' head is on ice are included as "key moments" in the history of the great American pastime!



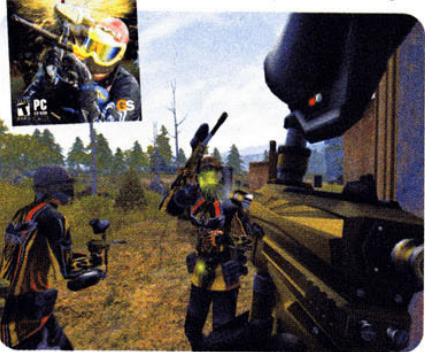
GAME

SPLAT MAGAZINE RENEGADE PAINTBALL

PC, Xbox • Global Star Software, Inc.

The Hype: Prepare for the ultimate SPLAT fest with adrenaline pumping Tournament, Fieldball and Arcade modes. From bunkering inside arenas to getting gogged in the great outdoors, it's time to break out in the most intense paintball experience yet.

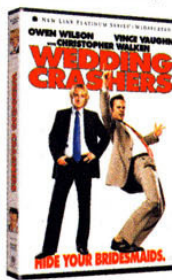
The Snipe: Sadly, "getting gogged in the great outdoors" is not a euphemism for what you've been hoping to do with that girl who sits behind you in third period algebra. It means getting hit in the goggles. Which is probably what that girl would do to you if she knew what you were thinking.



DVD

WEDDING CRASHERS

Warner Home Video • January 3



The Hype: In this romantic comedy, Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson have perfected the art of wedding crashing. But when one of them actually falls in love, their sacred rule, "never leave a fellow crasher behind," may be broken.

The Snipe: You know what would really be funny? If Vince Vaughn and his new gal-pal Jennifer Aniston crashed the Brangelina wedding at George Clooney's Italian villa.

MUSIC

THE LIFE PURSUIT BELLE AND SEBASTIAN

Matador Records • February 7

The Hype: Recorded in California, the soft-spoken Scottish band's newest release provides an even sunnier mood and a shift back to the band's stripped-down sound.

The Snipe: We're hoping they start a feud with fellow Glasgow natives, Franz Ferdinand — if only because it would result in some very sensitive, very literate diss tracks.



GAME

FINAL FIGHT: STREETWISE

PS2, Xbox • Capcom

The Hype: Play as Kyle Travers, a streetwise underground pit fighter and brother of the infamous Cody from the classic Final Fight series. A seedy organization has kidnapped Cody, and you must try to solve his disappearance. Damage enemies at close range with hand-to-hand combat and finish them off with weapons, including pool cues, 2x4's, steel pipes, knives, grenades, shotguns and machine guns.

The Snipe: So, Cody's gone missing, eh? Have you tried any of those secret prisons the CIA's running in Eastern Europe?



THE MUST-HAVE!

VOLUSON 730 ULTRASOUND GE HEALTHCARE

The Hype: With Voluson 730, you can now acquire and construct volumetric images in real time — up to 40 volumes per second. Volume Ultrasound not only improves your 3D/4D capabilities, it enhances your 2D imaging as well, for even greater diagnostic confidence in your obstetrical, gynecologic, breast and general imaging studies.

The Snipe: Remember those X-Ray specs they used to sell in the back of comic books? Same thing.



GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!



HUGH DIRTY RAT DEPT.

The Fox network seems to be successful with two types of shows. One is teen-oriented series like *The OC* and *That '70's Show*. The other is shows featuring bitter middle-aged men. Simon Cowell on *American Idol* is one of them and this guy, who makes Simon look like the Pillsbury Doughboy, is another. He stars in a new medical mystery. He's angry, he's brooding, he's unshaven, meet...

L

You have a malignant, grade 4 liver cancer, Hepatitis B, and your lung has just collapsed! Besides that: you are fat, you have an obnoxious lifestyle, your SUV guzzles gas, and when you do have the strength to speak, you are boring! Frankly we don't need an anesthesiologist on staff, because you put all the other patients to sleep!

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have some injured nuns to insult and twin dying orphans to hit with some acidic put-downs!

Is he ALWAYS that way?

Not really. Today he's being warm and cuddly!



PATIENT - SICK
DOCTOR - G. LOUISE

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER
WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN

DRUCKER

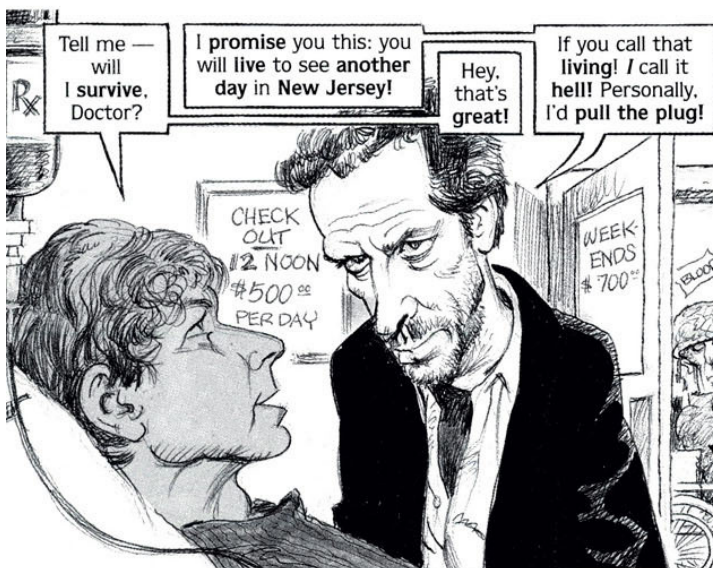
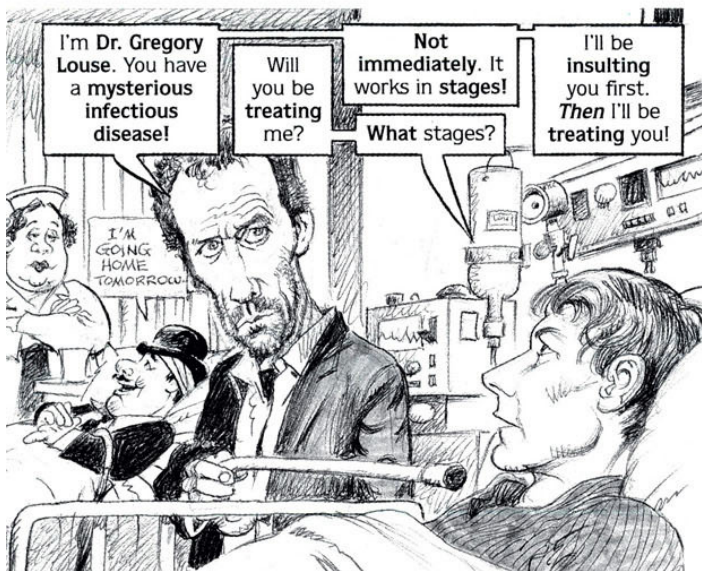
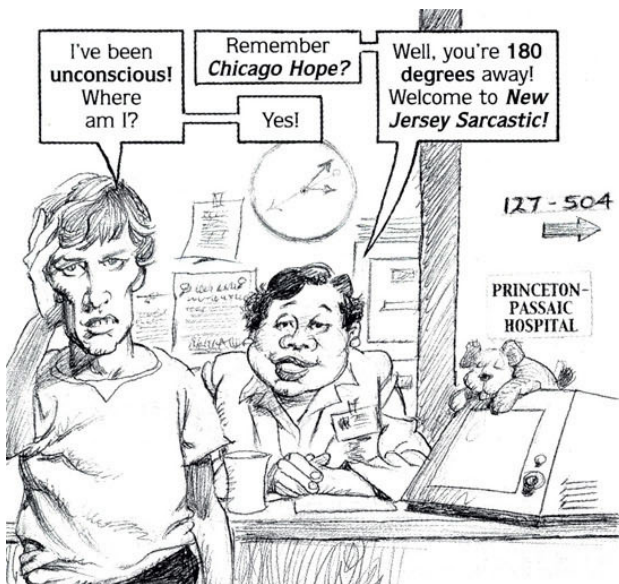
I'd like another opinion!

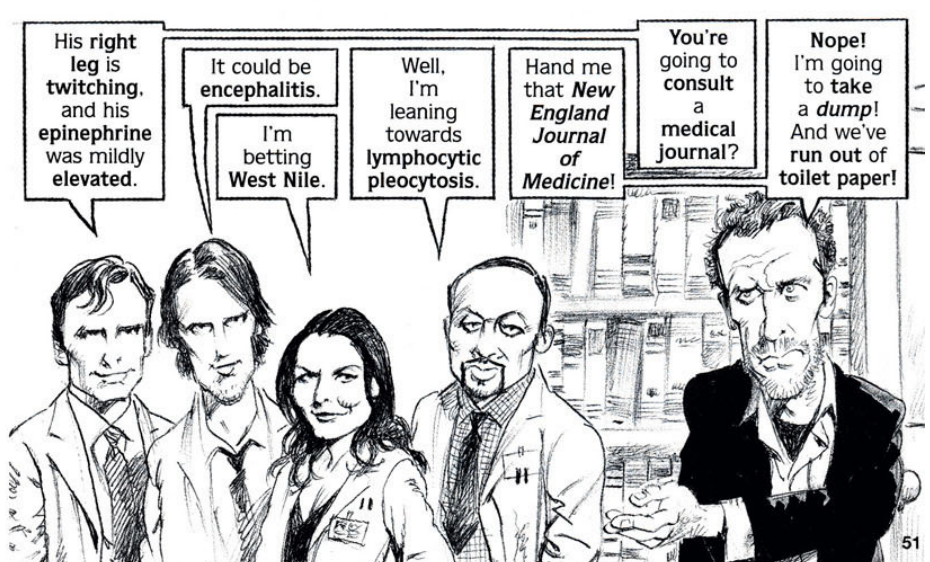
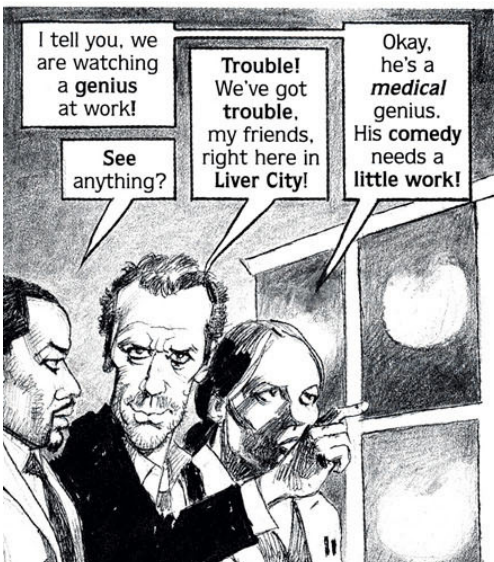
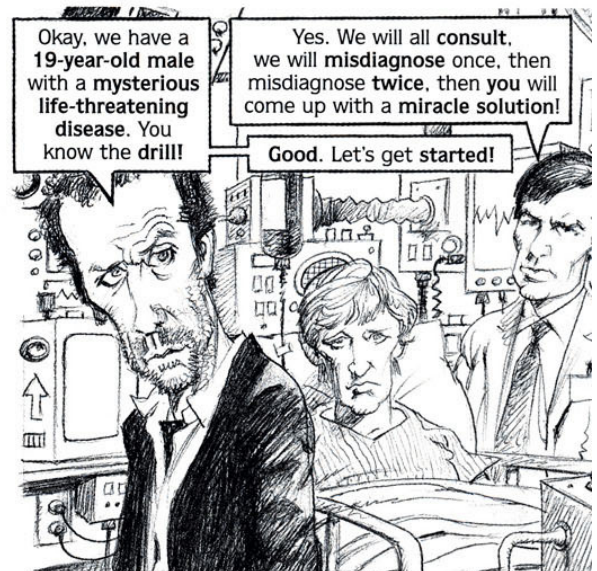
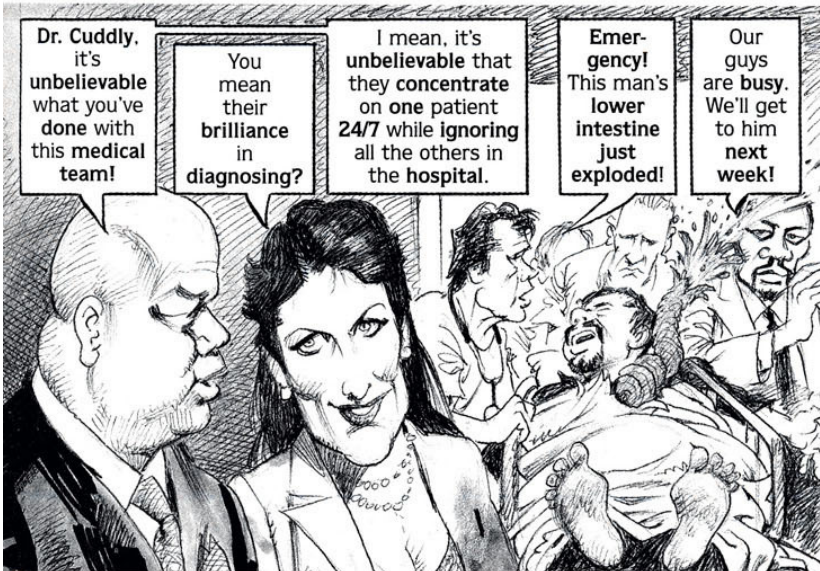
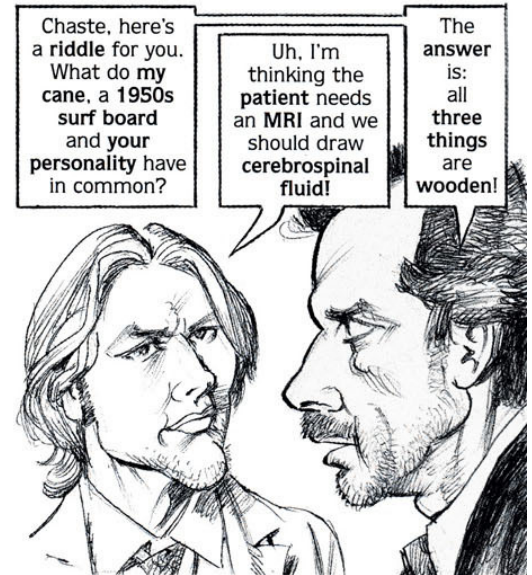
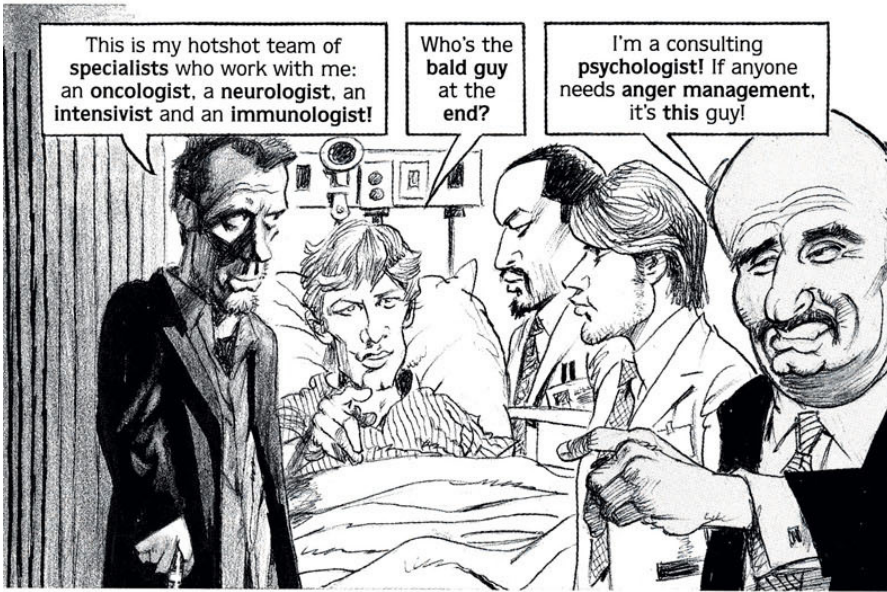
You want another doctor?

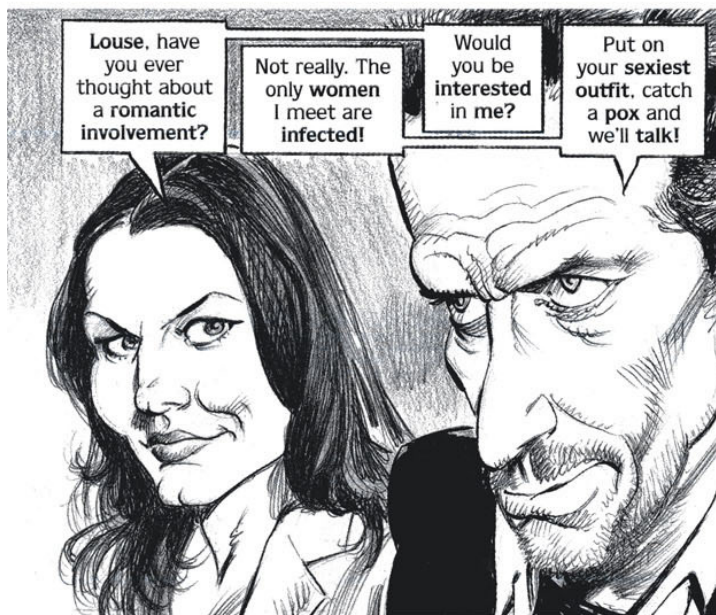
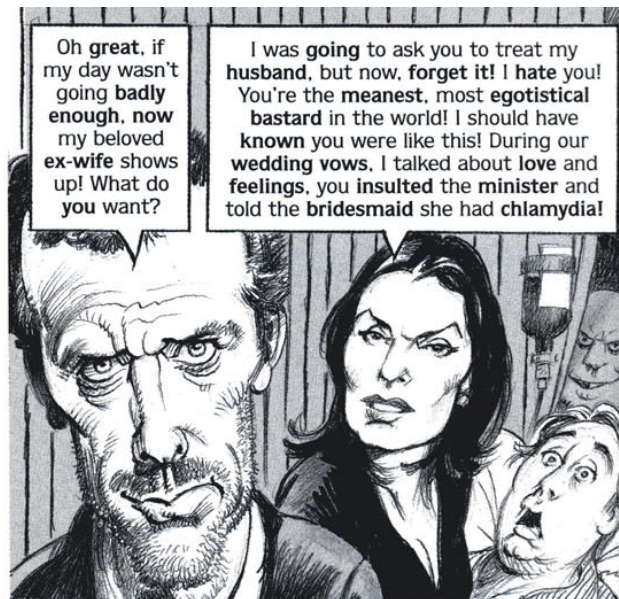
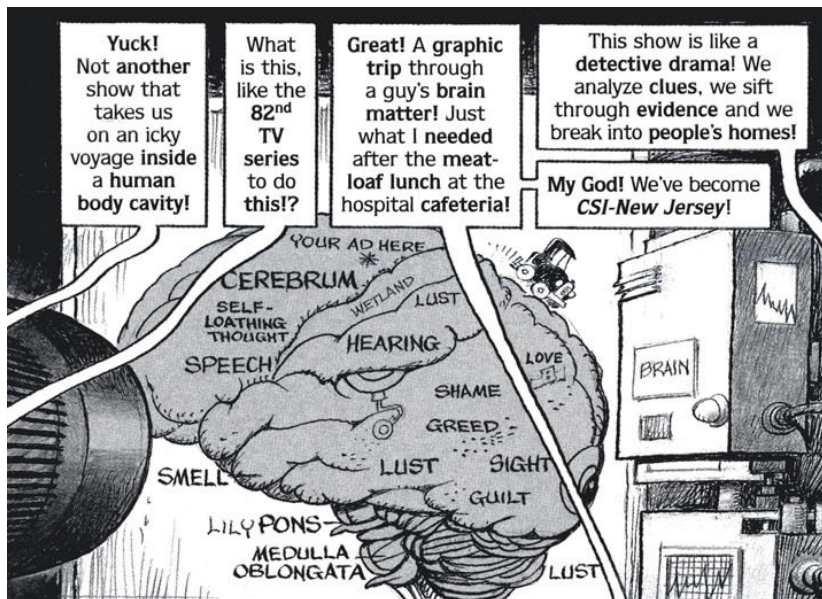
No. I want another TV medical show! Wheel me to *Scrubs*!

What patient is this for?

It's for ME!
I've got to deal with that maniac Louse every week!







**WHAT WAS
PRESIDENT BUSH
MOST UPSET
TO SEE DESTROYED
BY HURRICANE
KATRINA?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

There was no shortage of damage caused by Hurricane Katrina. And despite an initially apathetic response, there was one thing that the President was clearly upset to see demolished by the storm's wrath. To find out what this ruined thing is, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**HIT BY RECORD FLOODS, ALL OF NEW ORLEANS
APPROACHES COMPLETE RUIN. AN ATTEMPT AT REVIVAL
REQUIRES ENGINEERS CAPABLE OF REHABILITATING
AND BUILDING INDESTRUCTIBLE LEVEES**

A

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

B

WHAT WAS PRESIDENT BUSH MOST UPSET TO SEE DESTROYED BY HURRICANE KATRINA?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



A **B** FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



HIS APPROVAL RATING



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NO LOAD TIMES

unlimited **SKATING**
in the vast **WASTELAND**
of SKATE culture - **L.A.**

TONY HAWK'S AMERICAN WASTELAND

th-american-wasteland.com

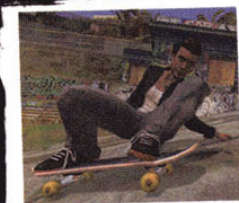
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SOUND TRACK
FEATURING: MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE,
FALL OUT BOY
AND TAKING BACK SUNDAY
COVERING PUNK CLASSICS!



freedom to ride **FOREVER**



customize your **LOOK, DECK**
and **TRICKS** - all in game



bust **NEW!** mind-blowing tricks



choose **BOARD or BIKE**



PlayStation 2



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